



St Lawrence Primary School

St Lawrence Newsletter - 25th September

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been filled with memorable experiences and excellent learning across the school.

Our Year 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Windsor Castle, bringing their history learning to life through a fascinating day of exploration and discovery. We would like to thank the parents and volunteers who supported the trip and helped make it such a success. We are also incredibly proud of the children who represented the school at last week's cross-country event. They demonstrated determination, resilience and fantastic sportsmanship, and were excellent ambassadors for St Lawrence.

Back in school, classrooms have been buzzing with purposeful learning, with children showing great enthusiasm, focus and pride in their work. It has been wonderful to see such a positive attitude towards learning as the term continues.

Kind regards

Ms Majumdar

Tea with Ms Majumdar

This week I had the pleasure of having tea with Jason, Isabelle, Kit, Aoife, Ivy and Amelia

Jason came because he has been amazing this week! Brilliant Maths, great progress in Handwriting across all his learning and he shared his wonderful knowledge of the monarchy with everyone all during our trip to Windsor Castle. Isabelle came to tea because she has been being a good role model on the carpet and always showing her teacher 5. Kit came to tea because he has been being a role model for his peers by listening with respect to the ideas of others whilst having the courage to share his own. Aoife came because she is always ready to learn and showing all of the school values every day. Ivy joined for always showing

kindness to others, being a wonderful friend to everyone, and coming to school every day ready to learn while demonstrating all of our school values. Amelia has been following our high expectations of beautifully and consistently presented work. This is a pleasure to read and mark, and it sets a great example to the rest of the class.

Well done to everyone who came to tea this week and I look forward to welcoming more children next week!

Celebration Assembly

A huge congratulations to our certificate winners this week!



Attendance

Being here, every day, on time matters

Being in school affects so much more than what your child can achieve academically. Attendance is crucial to building friendships, wider interests and passions and importantly feeling fully a part of our school.

We would like to thank you in advance for all your support with helping get your children to school each day and supporting them to be the best they can possibly be.

Congratulations to Puffin class with the highest attendance this week at 97.6%!

Class	Year	Week w/c 21.09.26
Duckling	R	94.2%
Puffin	1	97.6%
Hummingbird	2	91.1%
Kingfisher	3	92.3%
Toucan	4	94.3%
Owl	5	93.1%
Eagle	6	93.2%

Studybugs and other absences

The Study Bugs app is used to report an illness on the day.

Please [download](#) the free Studybugs app or register via the [Studybugs website](#).

For other absence requests including -

- *Medical or dental treatment appointments*
- *Requesting an absence for your child for 1 day, or part of 1 day*
- *Requesting an absence for your child for 2 days or more during the school term*

Please use the forms on our website.

A Message from Our Education Welfare Officer

Hello,

My name is Lauren Hawker, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the school's Education Welfare Officer (EWO).

I will be visiting the school fortnightly on a Tuesday, working closely with families and staff to support pupils' attendance and ensure that every child has the best possible opportunity to thrive in school. You may see me around the school during my visits, including at the school gates at the beginning or end of the school day.

My role is to work alongside parents, carers and the school to help overcome any barriers that may be affecting attendance. I understand that every family is different, and I am here to offer support, guidance and advice where needed.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's attendance, or if there is anything you feel the school should be aware of that may impact their attendance, please do

not hesitate to get in touch. Early communication is often the best way to ensure that the right support is in place.

I look forward to meeting you and becoming part of the school community.

Kind regards,

Lauren Hawker

Education Welfare Officer (EWO)



Lauren Hawker
Education Welfare Officer

Dates for the Diary

[Click here for important dates for your diary](#)

[Term Dates can be found here](#)

PE and Forest School Dates

Year group	PE Days	Forest school days
R	Monday & Thursday	Every Friday
1	Monday & Thursday	Friday 11th September
2	Monday & Wednesday	Friday 18th September
3	Wednesday & Thursday	Friday 25th September
4	Tuesday & Friday	Friday 2nd October
5	Thursday & Friday	Friday 9th October
6	Tuesday & Wednesday	Friday 16th October

Parent Workshops and Tea and Talks

This term, we are hosting two parent workshops: **Helping Your Child Get Ready for School** and **Supporting Your Child to Talk About Feelings**. These sessions are designed to give parents practical tools to help children thrive both academically and emotionally.

Each workshop will be followed by **Tea & Talks** in the playground, offering a chance for parents and carers to meet, share experiences, ask questions, and connect with staff over a complimentary tea or coffee. We look forward to seeing you there!

Parent workshops (Hall) 8.30-9am:

Tuesday 29th September - Getting ready for school **Please note an amendment to the original date**

Tuesday 6th October - Talking about feelings

Tea and Talk (playground) 8.30-9am:

Wednesday 30th September - Getting ready for school

Friday 2nd October - Getting ready for school

Wednesday 7th October - Talking about feelings

Friday 9th October - Talking about feelings

A reminder about parking

We thank you in advance for your careful and considerate parking in the local area during drop off and collection.

We kindly request that all members of our community park with courtesy whether in the neighbouring roads, or at the local church or pub.

We kindly request that should you make use of the parking at the local pub, 'The Plough', you respect the following:

AM - Both car parks (red and yellow) can be used, for the yellow car park - only use the numbered bays as the rest are for staff/deliveries.

PM - Yellow car park only within the numbered bays (the pub will be open and need car park yellow for customers).

Please see the image below for further guidance



Our Safeguarding Team

		
DSL: Matthew Barnard dsl@stlawrence.thpt.org.uk Matthew.barnard@stlawrence.thpt.org.uk	Principal/ Deputy DSL: Libby Majumdar Libby.majumdar@Stlawrence.thpt.org.uk	Deputy DSL: Suzan Kern Suzan.kern@stlawrence.thpt.org.uk
		
Deputy DSL: Jacqui Batchelor Jacqui.Batchelor@stlawrence.thpt.org.uk	Deputy DSL: Debbie Taggart Deborah.Taggart@Stlawrence.thpt.org.uk	Deputy DSL: Andi Robinson Andrea.Robinson@stlawrence.thpt.org.uk



Changes to Fixed Penalty Notices (Fines) From September 2024

At St Lawrence School our aim is to ensure that all students have excellent attendance. Excellent attendance means a student never misses a day of school with a very good reason and the school has authorised the absence. Our aim is to work with students and their families to ensure excellent attendance for all. In some cases, it may be necessary to take legal action to help achieve excellent attendance. These processes are described below.

When can legal action be taken for absences from school?

An unauthorised leave of absence for 10 or more continuous sessions* / 5 days

10 or more sessions* of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

*A school day counts as 2 sessions.

First Instance

Outcome: A fine of £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Instance (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued

Outcome: A fine of £160 per parent/ per child if paid within 28 days. No reduced rate for early payment.

Third and further offences (within 3 years)

A penalty notice will not be issued, the case will be heard in the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates can issue fines up to £2500 per parent per child.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court may show on a parents' future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

FAQs

Which absence codes relate to unauthorised absence?

G code – An unauthorised leave of absence such as a holiday

O code – no reason is given for the absence, or the reason given is not satisfactory

U code – Late after the registers have closed

How can I get support to improve my child's attendance?

We will always do our best to work with you to help improve your child's attendance. Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. Other staff who can support attendance are Debbie Taggart, Pastoral Lead and Mrs Batchelor, Office Manager

Where can I find out more about school attendance?

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/legal-action-to-enforce-school-attendance>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Key Staff

SLT Attendance Lead: Ms Majumdar

SLT Attendance Admin: Mrs Jemma Harber

Smartphone Free Childhood - a pact

A parent recently shared the *Smartphone Free Childhood* movement, which aims to bring families and communities together to encourage healthier, happier childhoods by delaying smartphone and social media use for children.

The initiative is not about banning technology, but about giving young people more time for real-world connection, play, learning and wellbeing, while helping parents navigate these challenges collectively rather than alone. We encourage families interested in this growing conversation to explore the organisation's mission and resources here:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/about-us/our-mission>

Local Notices



OCTOBER HALF-TERM 2026 FOOTBALL CAMPS

AT IMBER COURT SPORTS GROUND
KT10 8EG

Looking for the perfect mix of fun and football? Get ready to **learn, play,** and have **FUN** at our action-packed half-term camp!

SKILLS GAMES FRIENDS & MORE!

BOOK NOW!
EARLY BIRD PRICES AVAILABLE!

2 DAY CAMP
WEDNESDAY 28TH & THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER

Full day 9am – 3pm

Boys & Girls aged 5 – 12 years

Imber Court Sports Ground
KT10 8EG

Fun | Skills | Games | Prizes

PRICES

	STANDARD	EARLY BIRD (BOOK NOW & SAVE)
1 Day	£30	£24
2 Days	£55	£44

A great way to spend the half-term!



WHY CHOOSE US?

- 20 years established
- Professional Coaches
- 5 – 12 years – all abilities
- Boys & Girls welcome
- Tournaments & Games
- Prizes & Medals
- Safe & Inclusive Environment

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OCTOBER 2026

HOLIDAY CLUB

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

TWO WEEKS OF SPOOKY, AUTUMNAL FUN!

EPIC EXPLORERS
PRESCHOOL - YEAR 2

MIGHTY ADVENTURERS
YEAR 3 - YEAR 6

FOREST SCHOOL
PRESCHOOL - YEAR 2

ROYAL KENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, OXSHOTT

19th - 30th OCTOBER

FROM £28 PER DAY

OPEN 08:30 - 18:00

SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM SOME LOCAL SCHOOLS AVAILABLE

HALLOWEEN FUN AND AUTUMN ADVENTURES
FROM PRE-SCHOOL TO YEAR 6

TWO WEEKS PACKED WITH FUN EVERY DAY:

- Pumpkin carving and printing
- Halloween themed cookery
- Den building and outdoor adventures
- Spiders and creepy crawlies
- crafts
- Witches, cauldrons and potions
- Zombie tag and outdoor team games
- And much more!

BOOK HERE!



SPACES FILLING FAST - BOOK NOW!

GRAYES THEATRE ARTS

New and exciting classes coming to Bookham!

FREE TRIAL CLASSES!

Come and try our exciting classes for free!
Everyone welcome - no experience needed!

Ages 4 - 7 years
Tuesdays
8th & 15th September 2026
4 - 5 pm

Ages 8 - 11 years
Tuesdays
8th & 15th September 2026
5 - 6.30 pm

DANCE
PERFORM
MAKE
FRIENDS
BE YOU!

Ballet Modern Tap Jazz Musical Theatre
Street Styles Contemporary Acrobatic Arts

New Branch - Opening September 2026
Classes held at Eastwick Road Church
Eastwick Rd, Great Bookham, Leatherhead KT23 4BE
Ages Toddlers - 18 years

@grayes_official | www.grayes.co.uk | L:athomson@grayes.co.uk | 07957 380389

TASTER IN ALL GENRES!

Families First Guildford
Supporting families in our community

THE CENTRE FOR
EMOTIONAL
HEALTH

THE NURTURING PROGRAMME

Starting on
Friday 2nd October
10 weekly sessions, with a 2 week break for half term
09:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Guildford Family Centre
Hazel Avenue, Guildford GU1 1NR

The Nurturing Programme is a 10-week group course to help parents and carers deal with the challenges of family life and create a calmer, happier environment.

It is a tried and tested support programme to help us think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.

You should plan to attend each of the 10 sessions.




REGISTER AT: WWW.FAMILIESFIRSTGUILDFORD.COM/EVENTS