

## Headteacher's Update – 18.10.24

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the end of the first half term back at school. It has been a busy but successful time. I hope you enjoyed finding out how well your child has settled in to their new class at parents evening this week. It was a shame that we had quite a number of 'no shows' as teachers have set aside the time and are waiting for you. If you were a 'no show' then the teacher's notes will be sent home to you so you are informed of how your child is doing.

### Reception Welcome Ceremony

It was lovely to hear all the positive comments from the parents who attended their Reception child's welcome ceremony last week. Here is a quote from an email we received afterwards (and thank you for the feedback – it does mean a lot to staff)

*I just wanted to write a quick email regarding the buddy ceremony. My husband and I absolutely loved it. We were so proud of our child and the rest of reception and their buddies. It was such a lovely proud moment. Well done to Mrs Kaluza and the rest of the staff involved. We are so happy to be part of the St Louis family.*

I was so proud of the Reception children too, and their amazing, caring Year 4 buddies who will help guide the newest members of the St Louis family during their time with us. The singing was also fantastic.



### Foodbank donations

Following the assembly last week with a representative from Aylesbury foodbank, our school council members have been busy collecting up all the tins and packets that have been brought in ready to be collected and distributed to those in need. The response has been amazing. Thank you so much if you have been able to donate something, but we also appreciate that times are tight for so many of us at present, and we want you to know that you should only ever donate if you feel you are able.

### Catholic Social Teaching – helping others

I mentioned in last week's update about how we can live out the values of Catholic social teaching through helping others. As well as the foodbank donations, I was delighted to hear about the charitable efforts of two of our pupils. Nathan (4S) & Ethan (5L) took part in the Great Ormond Street Hospital's (GOSH) Charity Run which was held at London's Hyde Park on Saturday, October 12, 2024 and they walked and jogged the 5K run of the event. This was organised to raise money for building a Children's Cancer Centre at GOSH.

Well done boys on your fantastic effort and it looks like you had a great time as well.



### Sports News

Well done to all the boys who played in their first league game earlier in the week. Everyone worked so hard for the team and a flurry of goals in the first half meant that we were 4-1 up against a strong Aylesbury Vale side. Aylesbury Vale scored two late goals, which set up a dramatic and frantic final five minutes. However, the St Louis' defence stood strong and managed to get the win to carry on our 100% winning record this season.



On Saturday 12th October some of our pupils attended a Mini Handball tournament with the Year 3/4 and 5/6 at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. We are delighted to announce that St. Louis came 1<sup>st</sup> with their Y5/6 team. Big well done to the children and a big thank you to their coach Rose, who attends school every Wednesday to run an afterschool club for the boys and girls.

### National STARS School Travel Award

We were very proud that our school was one of 140 schools across the country to be nominated for the National STARS Travel Award. Mrs Hamshere and the JRSO's attended the online ceremony and were very proud to be selected as the Primary School Winner for Buckinghamshire. Well done to all our children and parents for all the hard work on trying to travel to school actively and safely.

### Be Bright Be Seen Day

Well done to everyone who wore something bright on Thursday to remind us of the importance of being seen as the dark evenings draw in. The JRSO's chose one person to win the brightest and most fluorescent from each class and awarded them a certificate.





### **Considerate and safe parking**

I am disappointed to have to be sending out another reminder about driving and parking safely near the school site. This was an email I received from a concerned parent recently:

*This afternoon on pick up one of the parents was driving along the path after he'd picked up his child, mounting up the curb and driving down to the end of the road on the path. As you can imagine this was incredibly dangerous.*

Please **do not** take risks by driving in this manner. It is so much better to be a little late, than to hurt a child or worse. Thank you to all of you who do take care, especially those who are able to park further away and walk the remainder and to those who walk, scoot or cycle with your child – we do appreciate it.

### **Winter uniform**

A reminder that it is time for children to be wearing their winter uniform when we return after half term. On the whole, everyone is looking very smart in their uniforms, but please note that trainers should be plain black or white, and filter bottles should not be in school. We do have some items of uniform in school we can provide for children if necessary – please speak to your child's class teacher if you feel we can help. If your child requires a snack, this should be fruit or vegetables only (Reception and KS1 have this provided) and bottles filled with water only. Thank you for helping us maintain high standards and for keeping our children healthy.

Please also take care on your journeys to and from school and remind the older children who walk or cycle by themselves to be vigilant, keep to well-lit routes and tell you about anything if they are concerned.

Have a wonderful and restful break, Mrs Machin



## Learning at St Louis



### Nursery

**We have been exploring autumn on the farm.**

**You can help at home by: collecting items on your walk, such as leaves, conkers and pine cones to bring in for our autumn display after half term.**

### Reception

**We have been learning: how to use a map. We had a nice walk around our school using a map.**

**You can help at home by: discussing with your child different types of maps and making a map of how to get to school.**

### Year 1

**We have been learning: to write a postcard.**

**You can help at home by: helping your child to write a postcard about somewhere you visit in half term.**

### Year 2

**We have been learning: how to use a ruler to draw straight lines and measure objects.**

**You can help at home by: using a measuring device to measure the lengths of things in your home.**

### Year 3

**We have been learning: about the Bronze Age.**

**You can help at home by: asking your child what changes happened during the Bronze Age.**

### Year 4

**We have been learning: about fractions in maths.**

**You can help at home by: asking about equivalent fractions.**

### Year 5

**We have been learning: about Roman towns in history.**

**You can help at home by: asking your child what Roman towns were like.**

### Year 6

**We have been learning: about the Sacrament of Ordination.**

**You can help at home by: asking your child for the steps a man goes through to become a priest.**