

Headteacher's Update 13.9.24

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new academic year, and to those of you brand new to our school, welcome to the St Louis family. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and feel refreshed as we enter the new term.

Reception children

We are delighted how well our new Reception children seem to have settled in. They have been engaged in all the activities on offer, both inside and out. Once they have been in school a little longer they will be paired with a pupil from Year 4 who will become their buddy for the next three years. We will send out information closer to the time inviting parents of Reception children to a special 'buddy time' where you can meet your child's buddy, as this will become a very special person in their school life.

New Reception Class and KS1 building work

We are thrilled with the building work which many of you will be aware has been taking place over the course of the year. We are now at the final snagging stage, and the transformation has been amazing. I'm not sure these photos do it justice but hopefully it gives you a bit of an idea of the improvement to the learning environment, especially if you can remember how it used to be.



Mass and Chapel visits

We were delighted to welcome Canon John to school to celebrate mass with us last Friday. He was most impressed with our children's knowledge (this time in relation to Solomon) and how well behaved they are and how beautifully they sang. Prayers were said for all the pupils, staff and families of St Louis asking for a productive and successful school year.

The classes have also been visiting the chapel to enhance their RE by looking at miracles performed by Jesus. This week they have learnt about Jesus healing a blind man which can be found in Luke 18:38-43. They have discussed why this was a miracle, how it would have felt to be this person being healed, how it would have felt to witness it, and how this proves to people that Jesus was the son of God as other people were not able to perform miracles like this. If you would like to discuss this further with your child at home, you can watch the miracle on video-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4qZ2KSbdxI&list=PLNcC1wUUyMmVL4CJkWESgAtlo4IUnuOUZ&index=2>

Parent Welcome Meetings

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us for the welcome meetings. I hope you found it useful to meet your child's new class teacher and hear about the routines and expectations of their new year group. You will also have heard about some of the topics and learning your children will be undertaking. As the class teacher will have explained, we really want to work closely with you to ensure your child reaches their full potential and has a successful time at school. If you have any questions, please do arrange to speak to the teacher in the first instance.

For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, please do take the time to read through the slides which will have been emailed out.

Year 6

I am sure that the Y6 pupils are very pleased to have completed the 11+ test this week (those who sat it). We will now be turning our thoughts to the process of electing the House and vice captains. If your child would like to put themselves forward for these roles they will need to write and deliver a speech to the fellow pupils in their house. I am always so proud of any child who does this as it takes such confidence – it is an example of them living out our Brave value as they realise that there is no guarantee of success.

The House Captains are roles of real responsibility and I look forward to introducing those who are elected to the rest of the school and inviting the parents of those children to an assembly to celebrate their achievement - information will be sent out once the elections have taken place.

Considerate parking

Please be mindful of our local resident neighbours when parking near the school. Thank you to all of you who have signed up to the parking promise – can we all remember not to park on grass verges, not to park on corners and not to block driveways. If you possibly can, we would encourage walking, scooting and cycling to school. However, if this is not possible please leave ample time to park or consider parking further away and walking the rest. Please also be extremely vigilant when moving off again after dropping your child off, particularly at the back gate, as it can be difficult to see young children and we have had cooperation.

Congratulations

I was delighted to hear about the children who have undertaken the Summer Reading Challenge to read a minimum of 6 books over the break. I know several of them read more than this. Reading really is one of the best things children can do to help their education but I hope they also realised how fun and rewarding reading is for its own sake.

Well done to Kiana in 1S, Thea in 2S, Noah in 6S, Antonio in 5L, David in 5S, Dominic in 5S and Kaynu in 5S. If any other children also successfully complete the challenge, please do bring in your certificate to show me.



Adeline and Sébastien organised and ran a cake sale at St Joseph's Catholic Church last Sunday. This was to raise money to help the Homeless Outreach Programme. They were very pleased at how much they were able to make to support it.

Well done both of you on this excellent, caring work for our community.



It was also amazing to see Hattie's special Blue Peter badge that she was awarded for writing a book review for the programme.

Well done to Kacper in 5S who received a 'Player of the day' medal from Aylesbury Vale Dynamos Under 10s on Sunday. What a star!



Enjoy the weekend,

Mrs Machin



Learning at St Louis



Reception

We have been learning: our class rules and routines.

You can help at home by: having a little discussion with your child about their first days at school.

Year 1

We have been learning: to count to 20.

You can help at home by: counting to 20 with your child.

Year 2

We have been learning: about things that are alive, things that were once alive and things that have never been alive in science.

You can help at home by: finding things at home that fit into these categories.

Year 3

We have been learning: how rocks are formed through the rock cycle.

You can help at home by: asking your child how igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks are formed.

Year 4

We have been learning: about Jesus' family tree in RE.

You can help at home by: asking your child who it included and the order it is in.

Year 5

We have been learning: about the Roman Invasion.

You can help at home by: asking your child who Julius Caesar was and his reasons for invading Britain.

Year 6

We have been learning: about whether Neville Chamberlain was right to promote appeasement.

You can help at home by: asking your child for some of the reasons for and against Britain going to war in 1939.