

St Louis Catholic Academy News January 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to welcome all the children back to the Spring Term after a very busy Autumn one.

Thank you to all the families who supported the Advent Fair and especially those who organised such a well attended and successful event. Thanks to the teachers for leading the Nativity in our hall and at church and for the wonderful Carol Service led in church.

Spring term promises to be equally busy with children continuing to study towards their SATs tests at the end of KS1 and KS2. Please support your children to return their homework on time and we remain grateful to you all for home learning support. Time for times tables practice and reading are much needed.

The parent survey ends soon and helps us to adapt and respond to your ideas to improve the school and we will report on this in the March newsletter once it is reported to Governors. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey if it is on your 'to do' list.

Changes to school this term include the completing of the school teaching kitchen in January, works towards the replacement of an oil fired boiler with an air source heat pump and selection of a specialist company to repair the crumbling boundary wall. We hope to order the outdoor mini gym for the playground that replaces the congo climbing frame. The Diocese are supporting the development of the wellbeing hub beside the library and I am told that subject to planning approval, this could be on site over the Summer holidays.

Our second face to face parent consultation meetings for the year take place in the Spring Term but if you need to chat to your teacher, you can make an appointment through the school office.

If you would like a place at our excellent Acorns Nursery, please let the Admin Team know (admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk.) We are always happy to show prospective families around our wonderful school.

If you have a few hours to spare on a regular basis, can you help us with reading with children, running the school library or helping in other ways?

Finally, we continue to look for new Foundation Governors to join our committed team. Please speak to Bethan Byrne, Chair of Governors if you can give time to this role as a volunteer and would like to find out more.

God Bless, Sue Blakeley - Headteacher

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PETER COLLINS TO ST LOUIS

Dear Ms.Blakeley,
Please forward my Christmas greetings to the community. I look forward to visiting.
With my blessing and the assurance of my prayers,
+ Peter.



RC DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA
Registered Charity No. 276742

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Our school supports the work of



Cafod <https://cafod.org.uk/>
Coming soon during Lent: Walk Against Hunger

We are here to help

Acorns Nursery	Miss Le Serve	acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Cherry	Mrs Smith	cherry@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Holly	Mrs Baldwin	holly@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Rowan	Miss Coetzee	rowan@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Oak	Mrs Muscionico	oak@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Lime	Mrs Hodson	lime@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Sycamore	Mrs Cox	sycamore@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Beech	Mrs Vickerage	beech@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Elm	Ms Jaffe	elm@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Hazel	Miss Spratt	hazel@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Larch	Mr Mannell	larch@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Maple	Mrs White and	maple@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Blakeley	sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Admin	Mrs Jones, Mrs Barlow, Mrs Bacon & Mrs Phillips	admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk

ST LOUIS PTA CLOTHES AND GIFT COLLECTION

Our first PTA fundraising scheme for January 2023 is to join up with Bags2School <https://bag2school.com/> a company that promotes the REUSE of clothes and shoes to benefit those who rely on 2nd hand clothes as their sole option for good quality clothing.

We have arranged two collections from school, the first on **Friday 27th January 2023** and the second on **Tuesday 6th June 2023**. If you have had a sort out of unwanted items over the Christmas break, please bear us in mind as it is a quick and easy way to raise funds. Hopefully a win win situation for everyone! **Please do not bring any bags to school before the collection dates above as there is no where to store them in school.**

See how this works below

HOW IT WORKS

We all have clothing in our wardrobes that we haven't worn in ages! In a world of fast fashion, we now have a lot of stuff – but when it comes to a clear out what do you do to make sure the environment comes off best?

Bag2School has the answer – we've been helping schools for over 15 years and in the process paid out over £42 million to PTAs and Friends of School Groups and many other organisations. The More We Weigh the More We Pay.



Newmarket **Open Door**
Churches Together With People in Need



Classroom collections of tinned foods during January please

ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE



TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH

Email friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com for more info on how your parents/carers voice can be heard and what you can do to help raise funds so we can provide more opportunities for our children.

Registered Charity Number: 1124123

St Louis PTA thank you to all the contributors to the Advent Fair:

A HUGE THANK YOU to the individuals and companies who kindly donated prizes to the raffle at the St Louis Advent Fair; The event raised an incredible £3166.50

Raffle prizes were donated by

- The Bedford Lodge Hotel
- Patricia Silveira for donating a family photo session
- Tamsin for the incredible Lucky dip gifts
- Mr Hockey/Cricket
- Lemontree Properties for donating a £50 voucher for Moons Toy Store
- Gonville Hotel Cambridge

- El Guaca
- Montaz
- Khobkhun
- Cambridge Ice Arena
- Parkside Pool Cambridge
- National Horse Racing Museum
- Hair Kandi
- Powters
- Rocking Rabbit
- Boogie Babes
- Majestic Wine
- Cambridge Arts Theatre

AND ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU TO YOU PARENTS/CARERS who contributed and all the staff and parent helpers without whom it simply would not have happened.

It was mentioned by helpers how very polite the children were at the Advent Fair and the PTA hope everyone picked up on the wonderful atmosphere.



Waitrose Charity gifted the PTA £366 towards greening of our play areas. We are building raised beds to grow vegetables in the Spring and supplementing our bird feeding stations around our site.

WAITROSE & PARTNERS

Coming Soon

Dates for the diary:
Valentines disco: Friday 10th February
Quiz evening: Friday 24th March 7-9pm



Sport and Staying Active at St Louis

Competition News

St Louis children are back attending competitions and we have had a great first term. It was especially rewarding to receive the shield for great sportsmanship at two events. Well done to all the many children who have taken part. Thanks to Mr Mannell for his time in preparing some of these teams.



Forest Heath Primary Schools' Sports Association

Sports Competitions in Spring (organised by Forest Heath Sports Partnership)

Yrs 5 and 6 Athletics
Yrs 3 and 4 Athletics
Yrs 3 & 4 Gymnastics
Yrs 3 & 4 Tag Rugby



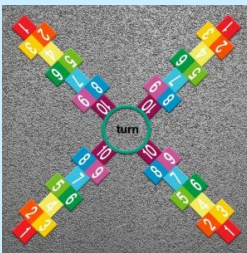
Outdoor gym for fitness coming soon!



With the help of the St Louis PTA, we will be installing an outdoor gym with 4 pieces of equipment on a new soft surface in the main playground.

Lunchtime Sport

We use our PE provider to support sports activities that include:
Games. Challenge Activities
Skipping games, Music.
Personal Challenge Leaderboards.
We encourage children to use the trails and climbing equipment during breaktimes.



Some new playground active markings are on order and will be painted in the Spring once the weather improves. Reception outdoor learning area are getting some of their own



You are invited to Premier's extracurricular activities!

Here's what's on near you: **ST LOUIS ACADEMY AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

MONDAY - YEARS 5 & 6 FOOTBALL CLUB
MONDAY - YEARS RECEPTION, 1 & 2 CHEERLEADING CLUB
TUESDAY - YEARS 2 - 4 TAG RUGBY CLUB
WEDNESDAY - YEARS 1 - 4 TENNIS CLUB
THURSDAY - YEAR 1 - 2 BALL SKILLS/MULTISKILLS CLUB
FRIDAY - YEARS 3 - 6 HOCKEY CLUB
FRIDAY - YEARS 3 & 4 GYMNASTICS CLUB

Starting 9th January 2023

This is just about the coolest thing you can do for your children.



They'll love keeping active, having fun and learning new skills with our before school, lunch time and after school clubs!

The NHS requires children to have 60 minutes of physical activity per day to stay healthy. With Premier, they can do this by taking part in a range of sport, arts and wellbeing activities!

Benefits for your child:

- ✦ Try new activities and make new friends
- ✦ Learn transferable skills for the future
- ✦ Stay focused & alert for their lessons
- ✦ Develop confidence, creativity and self-esteem

Most importantly, they'll have so much fun!

All of our Activity Professionals maintain links to local clubs and associations, giving children a route to develop and diversify their skills.

Identifying the stars of the future can enable them to get the right support and encouragement at an early age.

Save £5
by booking online

Some free spaces are offered to children in receipt of Free School Meals and children registered with Suffolk Young Carers <https://suffolkfamilycarers.org/young-carers/> and <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals>



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

Live Theatre for Year 5

Following two hugely successful years, Theatre Royal will again work with a team of professional playwrights to teach 450 pupils from 12 West Suffolk Primary schools, to write their first play. A play from each school will be performed at Theatre Royal, by a team of professional

actors, to children (the writers) and their teachers. Children will take part in high quality workshops, led by East Anglian playwrights, teaching the essential skills of playwriting, enabling children to creatively express themselves and to see their thoughts and ideas brought to life on the stage.

For a short video about this project please click the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svz5M8P0t3Y>

As a school working towards Artsmark Silver Accreditation in Summer Term, we gain many opportunities and priority spaces on writing experiences. We have secured spaces for all Year 5's to work in school with scriptwriters to develop Tiny Plays that will then be performed by professional actors at the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds. We will take them to the theatre to see how their writing translates into live stage performance. This supports their Skillsbuilder Skills of Aiming High, Teamwork, Speaking and Listening. Over the past two years, the children's writing skills have been enriched by these experiences.



Skillsbuilder

Essential Skills



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

Learn more at the Parents & Carers page

January	Staying Positive The ability to use tactics and strategies to overcome setbacks and achieve goals.
February	Creativity The use of imagination and the generation of new ideas.
March	Problem Solving The ability to find a solution to a situation or challenge.
April	Aiming High The ability to set clear, tangible goals and devise a robust route to achieving them.

We are continuing to use Skillsbuilder to develop children's skills. In January, children will be working on Staying Positive at sports' competitions, SATs work in Years 2 and 6, Planting ready for Spring, Food Bank collection. In February, we are focusing on Creativity and we develop Lenten artwork displays and share creativity in writing.

Families can access many activities to use at home at <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone>



ST LOUIS FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 27TH FEBRUARY TO 12TH MARCH 2023

We're pleased to have held the Fair Achiever award for several years. Part of our commitment is to hold fundraisers and events to raise awareness about the importance of paying a fair price

for products we buy. Our Fairtrade Committee, run by Upper Key Stage 2 children, is busy preparing for Fairtrade Fortnight 2023.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Fairtrade Fortnight 2023 is taking place 27 February – 12 March 2023.

This Fairtrade Fortnight, join us in spreading a simple message: choose Fairtrade now and help save our favourite foods.

Did you know cocoa, bananas and coffee could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves?

Climate change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink.

But here's the good news.

More of us choosing Fairtrade means extra income, power, and support for those communities, as they work to build sustainable and prosperous futures.

So not only is choosing Fairtrade best for people and planet, it could help save everyday treats like chocolate, bananas and a hot cuppa!



Welcome

Little Friends of St Louis

Stay and Play Tuesday 10th January 2023

Our stay and play sessions for pre-nursery families are growing. If you would like to be invited, contact acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk

Miss Le Serve and Mrs Das invite you and your friends to this group to welcome families of younger children into school for a chat and play with coffee and biscuits and the opportunity for children to mix and make new friends. It is a great way for them to meet children joining school in September in Nursery or Reception. Dates to join us are...

Tuesday 10th January

Tuesday 14th March

Tuesday 9th May

Tuesday 13th June

Tuesday 11th July



Catholic life



Despite the heavy snow and cold, we walked to church for our long awaited Carol Service led by Deacon James. The school choir, led by Daniel Justin were an amazing addition too.



Reception and KS1 performed a wonderful story of the Nativity in the school hall and at Church. A huge thank you to the staff for making this such a special occasion.

This Year Reception children were invited to take a Nativity bag home to retell the birth of Jesus with their families. We are grateful for the gift set from Ashton's clever grandma who knitted the wonderful Nativity set.



Catholic life



Our KS1 children made a video message beside the stable to wish Bishop Allan a happy retirement and another to welcome Bishop Peter Collins as our new Bishop of East Anglia. The children sang beautifully as part of their messages. We hope that Bishop Peter will visit us soon.

Mrs Muscionico, Mrs Balmer and Mrs Blakeley took six children to Norwich Cathedral to take part in the Ordination of Bishop Peter. We were approached by people in the congregation to say how well behaved and respectful our children were. It is always a delight to take the children out of school because they are great ambassadors for St Louis School.



Ten:Ten
Resources

With the arrival of the new year, we start to put away signs of our Christmas celebrations: we finish off festive food, box up decorations, maybe recycling Christmas cards (and

Christmas trees!) and perhaps generally breathe a sigh of relief about the return to normality. As we busy ourselves discarding all things of the festive season and look ahead to what 2023 might have in store, it's good to pause and remember that we are still in the season of Christmastide, which officially ends at Candlemas on 2nd February. We can leave many things behind, but hopefully the image of Jesus, God's gift of joy, hope and peace for the world remains. This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout January and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope and pray that the new year brings peace and blessings for you and your family.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>



Save the date!

2 March 2023

With a programme of exciting events, brand new activities for home and school, and our fantastic line-up of £1/£1.50 books - World Book Day 2023 is shaping up to be the best ever



RE Spring Term



the DIOCESE of EAST ANGLIA

Welcome back to a new term and 2023! We hope that you had blessed and holy Christmases filled with the peace of Christ! Having just started a **new Liturgical Year** at the beginning of Advent, we are not far into the new Church year either.



Changes of Season:

As we return to school, we will have our prayer cloths **white** as we will still be in the **season of Christmas!** White symbolises innocence, purity, victory and joy and is used for joyful and glorious occasions including Jesus, Mary the angels and the saints!

Monday 9th January 2023: We move back into the season of **Ordinary Time**. Our prayer cloths will be **green** to reflect our growth, hope and life in the Lord.

Wednesday 23rd February 2023: We will enter into **Lent** where our cloths will be **purple** to reflect this season of preparation and penance.

Key Dates (holy days of obligation in addition to Sundays are in bold*):

6/1/23 – Solemnity of the Epiphany – whole school Mass in church at 9:30am

8/1/23 – Feast of the Baptism of our Lord

2/2/23 – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

22/2/23 – Ash Wednesday – whole school Mass in church at 9:30am

25/3/23 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

2/4/23 – Palm Sunday

w/c 3/4 – Holy Week

7/4/23 – Good Friday

9/4/23 – Easter Sunday

16/4/23 – Divine Mercy Sunday

*If the holy day of obligation falls on a Saturday or Sunday, it is transferred to the nearest Sunday.

RE in school: Our Gospel values this term are **Generosity** and **Peace** for Spring 1 and **Wisdom** and **Happiness (Joy)** for Spring 2.

This term in our classes, we will be exploring:

EYFS: Getting to Know Jesus, Sorrow and Joy, Lent: Growing & Giving

KS1: Families & Celebrations, Prayer, Lent: Giving

LKS2: Jesus the Teacher, Jesus the Saviour, Prayer

UKS2: Jesus: Bread of Life, Jesus: Son of God, Prayer

On Wednesday 14th December, the diocese of East Anglia had a new Bishop 'installed': Bishop Peter Collins. A group from school were lucky enough to attend and even received Holy Communion from him! Let us keep him in our prayers as he starts his new 'shepherding' of our diocese.



Benedict XVI's last words:
"Lord, I love you!"

Pope Emeritus
Benedict XVI
1927 – 2022

Requiescat in Pace

May we be inspired by his last words to live lives inspired by Christ's true love and the Gospel Values. Amen.

Attention wonderful adults! If you've ever wondered what on Earth the Catholic Church is about (whether a Catholic or not!), Fr Mike Schmitz is starting a **'The Catechism in a Year'** podcast. He will go through key Church teachings and explain them in an accessible way. It can be found on YouTube, any podcast apps you use or the Hallow app. Happy learning! (He has also done a Bible in a Year podcast if you'd like to explore more there too.)



Let us pray... Lord, thank you for the gift of community. May we start this new year together in a spirit of generosity in peace: listening with open ears and open hearts so that we can learn and grow together as one. Amen.

A prayer for the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI:

Father, eternal shepherd,
hear the prayers of your people for your servant Benedict,
who governed your Church with love.

In your mercy, bring him with the flock once entrusted to his care to the reward you have promised your faithful servants.

May he who faithfully administered the mysteries of your forgiveness and love on earth,
rejoice with you for ever in heaven

In your wise and loving care,
you made your servant teacher of all your Church.
He did the work of Christ on earth.

May your Son welcome him into eternal glory.

May your servant whom you appointed high priest of your flock

be counted now among the priests in the life of your kingdom.

Give your servant the reward of eternal happiness
and let your mercy win for us the gift of your life and love.

We entrust your servant to your mercy with faith and confidence.

In the human family he was an instrument of your peace and love.

We entrust your servant to your mercy with faith and confidence.

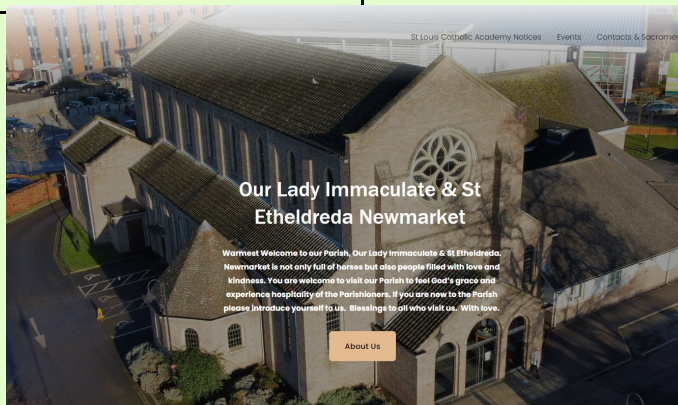
In the human family he was an instrument of your peace and love.

May he rejoice in those gifts for ever with your saints.

Through Christ our Lord,
Amen

Source: [Vatican Media](#)

January	Epiphany / start of term Mass in Church - Friday 6th January 2023 at 9:30am
January	27th January Bags2School Collection (no advance drop offs please)
February	EYFS Mass in Spring Term date to be confirmed
February	Fairtrade Fortnight 27th of February to 12th of March.
Lent will begin on Wednesday , 22nd February	CAFOD Fundraising
March	Weds 1st March 10.15am KS1 Mass in school (Fr. Leo) Weds 8th March 10.15am KS1 Reconciliation service in church (Deacons John and James)
March	World Book Day Thursday 2nd March—children are invited to dress as their favourite book character
March	Parent Consultation Meetings 20th March and 22nd March
April	Weds 26th April 10.15am LKS2 Mass in school (Fr. Leo)
May	w/c 1st May Coronation Picnic Saturday 6 th May, 2023. Coronation of King Charles
May	Weds 17th May 10.15am UKS2 Mass in school (Fr. Leo)
June	Ss Peter and Paul - Thursday 29th June - 9:30am
July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass date tbc



Our Parish Church

<https://www.olise.co.uk/>