

# St Louis Catholic Academy News

## March 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

Finally, we are seeing some snowdrops and crocus plants bloom around our grounds and we'll begin to plant our raised beds with some vegetables.

In February, Mrs White was appointed as Assistant Headteacher at St Louis. I very much look forward to continuing to work with Mrs White in her new role.

As we begin Lent, we are focusing on putting Jesus at the centre of all that we give, pray and do in his name. Each week, we use prayer to help us reflect on our Lenten journey.

Our Fairtrade volunteers have been busy preparing for Fairtrade Fortnight. This year they have challenged staff to make cakes for them to judge as the best Fairtrade cake. We'll sell off the remains after the judging. I think the group have been very creative in their choice of fundraiser this year. Mr Mannell will be raising funds too for Cafod with a Fairtrade football goal shoot competition.

Our school choir is growing and we now have forty children attending. After Easter, we plan to grow this group further. Meanwhile, the LKS2 community choir meets to prepare for singing to community groups during the Summer Term.

After signing off completion of the teaching kitchen, we are moving on to the refurbishment of the entire boundary wall around our school site. This is a huge project that begins at Easter and will see the deteriorating walls repaired. The Schools Condition Allocation from the Trust is providing the funding and this is great news for St Louis because it means that we can make the entire repairs as a single project.

In the old building, pipework is appearing as a new air source heat pump installation is underway.

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? We are so grateful for the first of our new volunteer team to step forward. 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



RC DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA  
Registered Charity No. 278742

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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	Mrs Cox	rowan@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Oak	Mrs Muscionico	oak@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Lime	Mrs Hodson	lime@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Sycamore	Mrs Wyatt	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	maple@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Blakeley	sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Admin	Mrs Jones, Mrs Barlow, Mrs Bacon & Mrs Phillips	admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk

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



Our next collection will be Thursday 9th March for tinned foods, pasta and cleaning products.

**THANK YOU**

### **Road Safety**

There has been some local Town Council discussion about traffic speed and parking around Fordham Road and Rayes Lane. Please write to Councillor Paul West (Suffolk County Councillor) with your concerns about speeding traffic. He has also assured us that improved fencing along Rayes Lane is coming.

**Contact:**

**paul.west@suffolk.gov.uk**

### **Rayes Lane fencing**

**On 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023, Councillor Paul West (Suffolk County Councillor, wrote to school to say,**

*“Dear All*

*I have been in contact with the Community Liaison Engineer and the Community Engagement Management who have advised that they will be moving this forward. The Community Liaison Engineer will make contact directly with the Jockey Club, Sue Blakeley, St Louis Catholic Academy and the relevant Cllrs to re-establish the situation and how to move forwards. Please let me know if you have not received any contact by the end of February”.*

### **Fordham Road speed restriction to 20mph**

On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022, Newmarket Town Council Development and Planning Committee Meeting was held. The committee debated the issue of the 20mph zone along Fordham Rd and have voted to escalate the issue to the full Council meeting next Monday with two possible solutions. (There are 3 but only 2 are to do with speed) . This needs to be done to carry more weight to the application.

They are:

- 1 To implement a 20mph along the length of Fordham Rd to the junction with Snailwell Road.
- 2 To impose a town wide 20mph.
- 3 To restrict large vehicles using the town as a rat run, through road, thus effectively closing the roads to goods vehicles over a certain size.

If the full town council vote to accept any or all the above resolutions then the next stage would be for the wards County Councillor, Councillor Drummond, to raise the issue with Suffolk County Council to hopefully then get the necessary Traffic Protection Orders in place and funding to allow these changes to be implemented. **Contact : andy.drummond@suffolk.gov.uk to share your views.**

## Quiz Night (adults only) - Friday 24th March at 7pm

The cost per adult is £15 which includes a hog roast or veggie option (bring your own bottle). Orders/money should be returned in a sealed envelope **marked with your child's name, their class and 'Quiz Night' and whether you require a hog roast or veggie option by Friday 3rd March 2023** so that we can confirm food numbers.

There will be tables of 8 people and we ask that you please fill your table, and then send in a note with the team members together with £150 to secure your place. However, if you are struggling for a team please let us know as we will be matching people up with any spaces we know of.

Please note that we are unable to give any change for this event so please only send the exact amount. **PLEASE GIVE YOUR ENVELOPES TO CLASS TEACHERS** who will collate them for us.

We very much look forward to seeing you at this fun social event. If you have any queries, please contact us at [friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com).

The PTA have been busy buying so many lovely things for our children.:

£4,000 contribution towards the teaching kitchen

£1,000 Tesco grant held by the PTA for the equipment purchased for the teaching kitchen—currently awaiting delivery.

£200 from reception cake sale this school year for class library books in Year 2 classes.

£150 from year 4 cake sale from last school year for class library books.

£145 from January's cake sale for reception class library books for Reception classes.

£150 Waitrose grant held by the PTA towards plants and seeds for growing vegetables and bird feeding stations through a community grant that we were awarded.

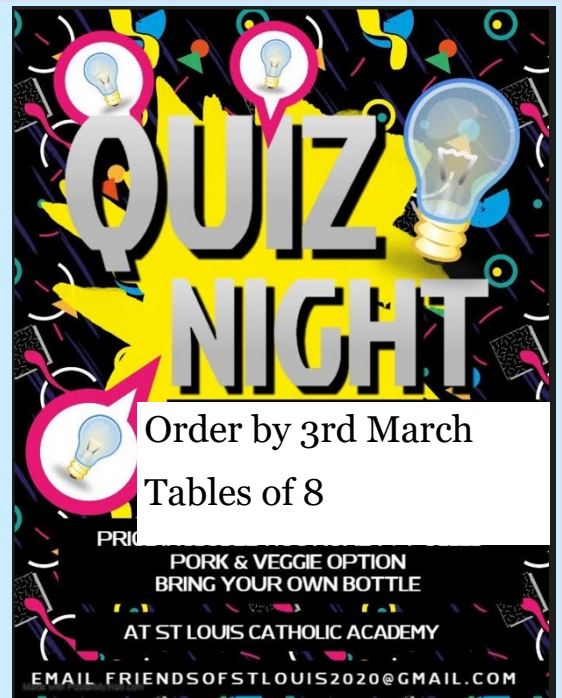
**ALONE WE CAN DO  
SO LITTLE**



**TOGETHER WE CAN  
DO SO MUCH**

Email [friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com](mailto: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



In addition, the PTA have ordered a new friendship bench for children to have on the playground due in April and ready for the good weather. We've bought a sign ready to place by this generous gift.



# Sport and Staying Active at St Louis

## Competition News - We are Winners!

St Louis children made us so proud at the County Final at Newmarket Leisure Centre on 3rd February. Well done to all of our athletics team. We featured in the Newmarket Journal and families joined us at celebration assembly to see certificates awarded. It was a tense competition and we were unsure that we had won right up to the final announcements.

However, we beat the second place winner by a huge margin and so we now realise how incredible our team were. Our team strength was in the great consistency of talent and ability in every event, the determination by every child to do their best and the meticulous preparation for the event that was led by Mr Mannell. Thank you Mr Mannell and all the children.

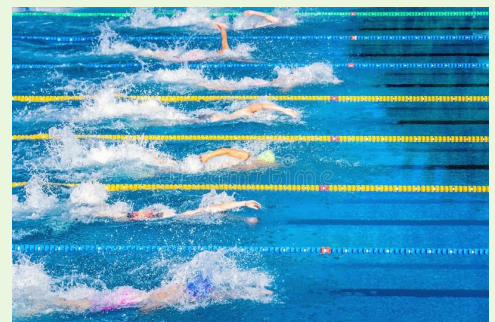
The Year 5 participants will now be able to excel in the 2024 competition.



Forest Heath Primary Schools' Sports Association

## Swimmers make a splash

At the recent inter-school swimming competition, we came top of the class and took away gold medals. Fortunately, Mr Mannell (our Maths Subject Leader) spotted some errors in the points awarded for individual events and we were able to win by a significant margin! Well done to our fantastic swimming team



## Help Sponsor a Competition Track Suit Top

Do you work for anyone who would sponsor some tops for KS2 children to wear at competitions? To buy 30 tops, we need to find a sponsor to provide £600.

# Catholic life



We have a large group of Altar Servers who join us at Mass. Most parish priests like to be able to draw on the help of between one and six altar servers at any one time.

We are very proud of our boys and girls who serve at the altar within our Parish.

There is no age restriction for an altar server and some adults continue in the ministry well into old age. It is, however, the norm to draw altar servers from children who are practising Catholics and who have made their First Holy Communion.

Very often they are recruited as volunteers at school by the invitation of teachers or priests who know the children and their families reasonably well. Please speak to Mrs Muscicono, our RE Leader, if you wish for your child to join this expanding group.

<https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/turkey-syria-earthquake-how-your-support-is-helping>



Families are invited to join us at Mass in church celebrated by Bishop Peter Collins on Monday 20th March 2023. This will be followed by a blessing of our new teaching kitchen once we return back to school. The kitchen was partly funded by Alive in Faith and Bishop Emeritus Alan Hopes will also join us on the day because he oversaw the Alive in Faith donation.

Daniel Justin, who leads our choir, will be introducing some new music that he has composed for use within the Mass. We are excited to be the first East Anglian school to perform using the wonderful music and to be given this opportunity.

We have called our new kitchen "The Mustard Seed Kitchen" because:

**"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."**

Our children arrive quite tiny in nursery and grow much taller than some staff by the time that they leave, a little like the mustard seeds. We hope that some of that growing will be during learning and being nurtured in the new kitchen.

Our new mental health hub funded by the Sisters of St Louis, that is under design will be, "The Nest", so we feel this provides a lovely connection too.



## Lent calendar

Follow our Lenten calendar for prayers, reflections and practical actions to guide you through the season of Lent.

Pray with us



<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-prayers>

We are using the Cafod interactive calendar during Lent

Our Fairtrade Fundraisers are:

6th March cake sale after school—Staff-made Fairtrade cakes

10th March—wear a Fairtrade colour and bring something to sell at the Fairtrade sale

17th March hot chocolate sale 50p

24th March ice-cream Sunday sale 50p

Fairtrade football with Mr Mannell 20p



## Skillsbuilder

## Essential Skills



## March is problem solving month

Visit Skillsbuilder Homezone to search ideas to help your child to develop their problem solving skills <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone>

Design a scavenger or treasure hunt for your family. To do this you need to hide treasure (for example a toy or prize) somewhere in your house or garden. You then need to write out and hide clues to help your family find the treasure.

Think about the places you want your family to visit as part of the treasure hunt. What question will you ask them in order to get them there?

Write your first clue out, then hide the next clue in the place that is the answer to the first. Do this four or five times so that the answer to the last clue is the place where the treasure is hidden.

Consider the different ways you can write your clues. How can you make them harder or easier?

### Reflection Questions

**Getting Started:** What are the instructions?

**Intermediate:** How can you come up with lots of possible solutions?

**Advanced:** Why is it important to consider a range of solutions for problems?

**Mastery:** How might you choose between different solutions to a complex problem?

## Parking In Rayes Lane

There have been enforcement officers attending Rayes Lane to deter people from parking because parking in this area is not permitted. Our neighbours also politely request that families do not drop off and collect children from Rayes Lane.

More recently, Cambridge Care Company located in Fordham Road near school has asked that parents do not park in their car park or block their drive please.

St Louis wants to be a good neighbour and asks for your help in doing this.

### Newmarket Girls Football

Is your daughter in Year 2 or 3?  
Would she like to be part of a team?  
A team that is focused on  
development and having fun?

Newmarket Town Girls Under 8  
Football Team is looking for new players.

Beginners and all abilities welcome!

We look forward to welcoming you to our team!



Please Contact  
Bridget Roddy  
07931 363307  
bcroddy81@gmail.com



## Welcome Little Friends of St Louis

### Stay and Play

Our stay and play session for pre-nursery families are growing. If you would like to be invited, contact [acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk](mailto: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 14th March Tuesday 9th May Tuesday  
13th June Tuesday 11th July**



Mrs Hodson, Science Leader, is leading us in an exciting science week during National Science Week 2023

This will include Science show 17th March

Daily live links to scientists will take place and guests will speak to us about their specialist studies and work, and there will be science lessons throughout the week.

10-19 March  
British Science Week  
2023



British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year's theme - connections!

**Dress as your favourite scientist on Friday 17th March**

We are following the PKC science curriculum in school and our children love their science learning. Here is an example of Year 1 and Year 6 science study. Our Science Curriculum is knowledge based and builds ensures a comprehensive coverage of subjects that prepares children to move on to Secondary School. Our aim is that all students gain science knowledge and a love of the subject during their time at St Louis.

Year 1

Science PKC | Taking care of Earth | 1 PKC

**KEY VOCABULARY**

natural resources	materials we can use that are <b>from nature</b> , e.g., we can use wood from trees to make furniture
manufactured resources	materials we can use <b>that people make</b> , e.g., plastic
renewable resource	a resource that <b>doesn't run out</b> , e.g., wind energy
non-renewable resource	a resource that <b>will run out if we use it all</b> , e.g., coal
pollution	a substance that is <b>harmful to the environment</b> , e.g., spilling oil into the sea
environment	the <b>natural world</b> around us
conserve	to <b>protect something</b> from harm or destruction

**recycle: to use something again, sometimes for a different purpose**

Year 6

**KEY VOCABULARY**

light	light is a <b>source of illumination</b> , it allows us to see; there are natural and artificial sources of light on earth (the sun is a natural source of light that supports life on earth)
speed of light	the speed of light is believed to be the <b>fastest speed at which anything in the universe can travel</b> , approximately 650 million miles per hour; scientists use the speed of light when calculating vast distances in space
mirror	a <b>surface which reflects a clear image</b> ; archaeologists have found mirrors made from polished stone dating back over 6000 years (the ancient Egyptians used polished copper to create mirrors)
shade	a <b>dark patch where light has been blocked</b> ; shade is darker and cooler than areas exposed to direct sunlight
reflection	the <b>return of light from a surface</b> ; some materials absorb light, but others reflect it
prism	a wedge shaped object which <b>can split white light into a rainbow spectrum of colours</b> ; scientists call the splitting of light 'dispersion'

**cross section of a human eye**

light is essential for our eyes to see

**periscope**: a device that uses reflection of light to allow the user to see something that is out of their line of sight

at A, the mirrors are tilted 45°

at B, the light reflects from the mirrors travelling down the Periscope

at C, the image can be seen by the user

dispersion  
a prism can split white light into rainbow colours





**A message from Mrs Lebbon  
and a plea for donations to The Childrens Trust**

As some of you may know, our beautiful daughter Millie suffered a stroke last year, something we didn't think could happen in children. She had been a completely healthy, energetic and loving 3 year old, when suddenly she fell ill and was rushed to hospital. Following two emergency surgeries and a stay in Intensive care, it was clear that Millie had suffered profound damage to the left side of her brain. When she awoke, she was no longer able to walk or talk and had no movement on her right side.

Following her long stay in hospital, Millie spent 16 weeks at **The Children's Trust** and due to her incredible determination and the amazing care from the wonderful therapists, carers, doctors and nurses, she is making amazing progress and is well on her way to walking and talking again! We still have a long road ahead of us, but would not be where we are now without their amazing support.

This month, we are returning to Tadworth to complete a sponsored walk to raise money for **The Children's Trust** and would love to raise as much as we can for this fantastic charity.

If you would like to make a donation to this wonderful charity, you can do so by clicking on the JustGiving page below.

[Alice Morrison-Lebbon is fundraising for The Children's Trust \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Alice-Morrison-Lebbon)

Thank you very much for your support.

Kind regards.

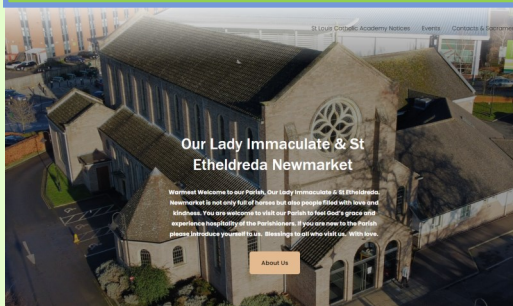
Mrs Lebbon

For more information about The Children's Trust and the incredible support they offer, please see their website: <https://www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/>

Lent will begin on Wednesday , 22 February	CAFOD Fundraising
March	Weds 1st March 10.15am KS 1 Mass in school (Fr. Leo)
March	World Book Day Friday 3rd March—children can dress as their favourite book character
March	Friday 10th March Fairtrade After School Fair 3.30pm Children can dress in Fairtrade colours and bring something to sell at the Fairtrade Fair after school
March	Friday 17th March Children can dress as their favourite scientist—no charge but hot chocolate on sale that day—see below!
March	Friday 17th March Hot chocolate sale 50p CAFOD fundraiser Order by 16th March please
March	Friday 24th March Ice-cream Sunday sale for CAFOD 50p Order by 23rd March please
March	Parent Consultation Meetings Monday 20th March and Wednesday 22nd March
March	Monday 20th March Bishop Peter Collins and Bishop Emeritus Alan Hope Celebrate Mass at St Louis and bless our teaching kitchen
March	Friday 24th March PTA Quiz night
April	Weds 26th April 10.15am LKS2 Mass in school (Fr. Leo )
May	w/c 1st May Coronation Picnic Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> 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/>



St Louis School KS2 Choir has 40 members!

Let us know if you wish to join after Easter.

Monday 3.30pm to 4pm led by Mr Justin from

Norwich Catholic Cathedral.