



St Louis Catholic Academy Newsletter

July 2023



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Dear Parents and Carers

This school year has gone past so quickly and we are busy planning for 2023 2024 Autumn Term. For our Year 6 children leaving for secondary school, we are so sad to see them go but we know that they will give so much to their new schools over the next seven years. It was wonderful that they had the opportunity to try out new skills at PGL Boreatton Park before ending the term. I am grateful to Mrs. White and her team for looking after them so well.

As usual, Summer is moving time for some families and this creates a few spaces in classes but some are already offered out to families moving into our area and we'll welcome them to St Louis in September. Most but not all year groups will be full. We wish our families who have been with us for several years but now go abroad, safe journeys and we hope that you keep in contact.

This year, we say farewell to Mrs Cox who is looking forward to a significant career change because she is about to go back to school to train to be a Church of England Vicar. Mrs Cox will be missed by all of us and I am grateful for her work with children on the Fairtrade Committee, her drawing and talking therapy and all the friendship she has provided to the school.

Once again, our fantastic PTA gave their time to make the Summer Fair on 7th July 2023 a huge success and the sun shone for us. Every penny spent will go towards supporting St Louis children. The PTA are ambitious in their fundraising and plan over time to replace and add to the trim trails around school now that some are reaching end of life.

With your great support, our children have worked so hard this year and we are grateful for all your help in completing homework, joining in learning and attending meetings.

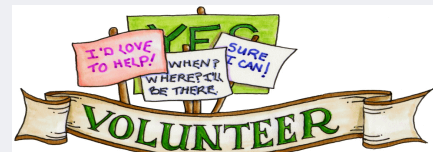
We have accumulated a mountain of unnamed cardigans and jumpers again this year. These are washed and sent to Mrs Das to sell through the Facebook St Louis nearly new online store. Please try to label your school uniform ready for September because we always try to return named clothes to their families.

At the top of this page is the brilliant Pentecost Party photo, a rare opportunity to capture all the children together.

All the St Louis staff team wish you a fantastic Summer break and look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 6th September 2023. We say thank you for all your support.

God Bless

Sue Blakeley
Headteacher



Reception Intake

2023 2024

We may have spaces in September 2023 because some families plan to move out of the area before taking up their spaces. Please let your family and friends know. Our Reception children make great progress!

Our school supports the work of Cafod <https://cafod.org.uk/>



RC DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA
Registered Charity No. 278742



Our Expanding Choir

We have been very fortunate to enjoy the wonderful singing of our choir in school and at Mass. We are grateful to Mr. Justin for developing music in school. His school music team is now expanding and from September, the Diocese has appointed Ms Naomi McLeod-Jones. She will be leading our school choir on Wednesdays after school for KS2. LKS2 children will take part in singing lessons with her weekly for one term each. Sycamore Class will be the first group to benefit from this. We are grateful to the Diocese for providing us with such talented musicians.

We are grateful to Mr Justin and thank him for the wonderful music that he has brought to our school this year.

Mr Justin will be back in September before he flies off to Sydney Australia where he will take up his new role leading music at the Catholic Cathedral. The Cathedral boasts four organs, so he'll be busy composing and playing these.



Mr Daniel's new home: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

Year 6 Chaplaincy Team

The chaplains have shown great leadership and embraced their responsibilities this year. The team have led prayers and worship throughout the year and they have all been great models to younger children. This team have:

- Led prayer in Gospel and Celebration Assembly
- Helped prepare for Masses
- Met with visitors to discuss RE learning in school
- Represented the school at the Requiem Mass for the Queen in Norwich and at Bishop Peter's ordination at the Cathedral

Our Year 5 children have attended Ignite training to consider ways that they can serve in school next year. We will be taking our new Year 6 to Clare Priory in September for a day of prayer and reflection to help prepare them for their important transition year and providing them with time to discuss moving to secondary school and ways that they can contribute to helping others.

Shortly after, we will form the chaplaincy leadership team for 2023-2024.

Father Leo Celebrates Mass with our choir on the Feast of St Peter and St Paul

Fr Leo led a Mass for the whole school in church. The choir sang beautifully as always.

Community Singing

Mrs Cox and Mrs Das walked our LKS2 community choir to the nearby Newmarket Day Centre to sing to their visitors. They have been rehearsing this year in preparation for this and more opportunities to support the wider community.

CAFOD Live Simply

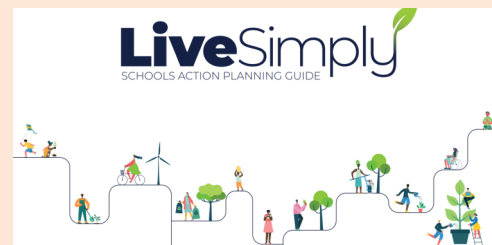
We have been looking at ways that we can work towards achieving a CAFOD LiveSimply award. This is an opportunity for Catholic communities - parishes, schools,



religious orders and chaplaincies - to respond to Pope Francis' invitation in Laudato Si' to "work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us".

We have to commit to taking three 'go big' actions and six 'standard ones. We'll be working on this next school year.

<https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/livesimply-award/livesimply-award-for-schools>



Planning example

GLOBAL IMPACT	Engage with CAFOD Lent fundraiser on global food poverty.	Set up fairtrade stall or group for school.	Engage with CAFOD's latest campaign.
LOCAL IMPACT	Set up links and create a school action with the local foodbank.	Joint parish and school reduce, reuse and recycle scheme.	Create a family led eco-promise activity, where parents take action.
SCHOOL IMPACT	Create a live simply pledge wall and actions.	Set up eco-club, and target sustainable actions.	Create a prayer garden to pray and reflect on living simply.

We are here to help 2023 2024

Acorns Nursery	Mrs Rossiter-Johnston	acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Cherry	Mrs Smith	cherry@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Holly	Mrs Baldwin Phase Leader	holly@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Rowan	Mrs Muscionico Phase Leader Mrs Lebbon	rowan@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Lime	Mrs Brankin	lime@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Oak	Mrs Hodson	oak@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Sycamore	Mrs Wyatt Mrs Conway SENCo	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 Assistant Headteacher Phase Leader Mrs Masters	maple@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Blakeley	sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Admin	Mrs Jones Mrs Barlow Mrs Phillips Mrs Fieldsend	admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk

Teaching Support

Our support staff move around school to meet the needs across school but they are all back with us in the new term with the addition of Ms Woodhall and Mrs Weston-Mann.

Barrier Fencing in Rayes Lane

We understood that plans were progressing with Suffolk County Council to refurbish and enhance the fencing that separates pedestrians and horses.

Please contact Councillor Drummond to chase this overdue improvement work on our behalf because he has been involved.

Andy.Drummond@suffolk.gov.uk

Please also contact

paul.west@suffolk.gov.uk

He is the Cabinet Member for Ipswich, **Operational Highways** and Flooding

Includes: Flooding, **Footpaths and Pavements, Highways Assets**, Highway Drainage and Flooding, Ipswich, Rights of Way and Street Lighting, **Road Safety**, Road Safe and Driver Offending Retraining Governance, Speeding.

Trina's Accident

Whilst Trina, our cook, had an accident in Rayes Lane, it was not related to the fence disrepair. However, it is a timely prompt to raise collective voices about the need to improve this area to make it safer for children, horses and riders.

Trina is recovering from her injuries and we are missing her greatly. Lauren and Helena have been fantastic covering in her absence.

Thank you for all of you who assisted at the accident and provided witness statements. Suffolk Police have confirmed that they are not taking any action.

Councillor Hood has supported school in making representations about the many delays in improving the barriers.

Our Governors have made many representations on behalf of school also.

An Amazing Year of Sport

Mrs Vickerage and Mr Mannell have led some incredible team wins this year and we have a shelf full of trophies. Mr Mannell has given lots of his after school time to prepare teams throughout the year and both teachers have attended many competitions with children. We won this year:



Our two major successes were at county finals:

Even when we did not win, there were so many competitions where we did well too!

1st in the county at Sportshall Athletics
2nd in the county at Netball
Year 3/4 Football Fair Play Award
Year 5/6 Boy's Football Fair Play Award
Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics
Year 5/6 Orienteering
Year 5/6 Netball
Year 5/6 Swimming
Year 5/6 Quaddkids Athletics

Sports Clubs 2023 2024

The new club timetables will be launched soon. Year 6 will be offered free relaxation and yoga classes once again to help them keep calm during their final year. We have a new art club and cooking club starting. As always, we need to spread offers across key stages because we only have so many pitches and rooms to accommodate clubs. Young Carers have access to some free clubs. If you think your child is eligible, please let us know.

Wednesday 27th September

**Parents of our new Reception children are invited to join them
for a School Lunch**

Please look out for an email from the Admin Staff when we return to school in the Autumn term with further details of how to book and pay.



PTA News

I would like to thank everyone on the PTA for their tremendous support for school this year. I think it is great that the many events have funded the gym equipment, some kitchen items and so much more, but even without the money, the opportunity to come together has been the greatest gain from all of this because of the many opportunities created to gather as a community. Our children loved the Christmas and Summer Fairs, joining in with their own stalls too. Thank you and I can't wait for the Christmas 2024 Fair... not so far off now!

Sue Blakeley

Headteacher



**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

Lost Clothing Around School

Every week, we collect twenty or more items of unlabelled clothing, wash them and give them to Mrs Das to add to the Facebook Nearly New Shop Uniform page. Some of you may be rebuying your own clothes! Please label clothes with a laundry pen (full name please) or use sew on labels.

If we find labelled clothing, we always return it to your child.

Stikins Uniform Name Labels

These Stikins name labels for clothes and shoes are a great way to avoid your child losing their school uniform and also generates **30%** in commission for school! Here is a link with more information and how to place your order—our fundraising number is **20400** <https://www.stikins.co.uk/name-labels/>

Each week, we collect many unlabelled items of clothing. When we find a name label, we work to unite your child with their lost property. Please buy some labels or use a laundry pen to mark up all uniform.



Farewell Year 6

We say goodbye to our Year 6 children who have astonished us with their acting and singing skills in their production 'Olivia' this year. They have also performed strongly in their SATs tests, beating national performance across all areas.

2023

% exceeded national

	Reading		Writing		GPS		Maths		Combined	
	EXP	GDS	EXP	GDS	EXP	GDS	EXP	GDS	EXP	GDS
Result	83%	28%	78%	14%	89%	36%	89%	42%	75%	8%
	+10%		+5%		+17%		+18%		+16%	
National	73%		73%		72%		71%		59%	

Science 89%

National 80%

Highlights included Maths, where nationally, 71% of children passed at expected standard but our children exceeded this by 18%, with 89% of them meeting this expected standard. Of these that met the standard, 42% of them reached the greater depth standard. In 2022, only 22% of children nationally reached this greater depth level. We are awaiting confirmation of the 2023 national attainment at this level but it will be similar to last year. They also did well in grammar, punctuation and spelling, surpassing others nationally by 17%.

This means that most children leave for secondary school well placed to perform strongly in Year 7.

Mrs White, Mr Mannell have supported the children to produce these excellent results but families have been ever present in encouraging children to study. Whilst Year 6 is a time to showcase their success, the many teachers who have worked with them during their entire time at St Louis have supported this great final year.

Boreatton Park Residential



Cast of 'Olivia'



Netball County Champions



Year 6 orienteers at the County final.



Year 4 Residential

When the Year 4 residential was booked, we did not foresee that King Charles would select the start of the visit to be his celebratory Bank Holiday but some staff kept the plans alive by missing their holiday to allow the visit to go ahead. We are so grateful to them for doing this.



Mrs Vickerage assures us that she is the one dangling from the high tower!

Free School Meals

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

Income Support; Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance; Income-related Employment and Support Allowance; Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit but no element of Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190

If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work fewer hours per week

Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

We also offer children receiving free school meals access some free clubs..

Please apply via the following link www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

You can also find one off support from Suffolk Local Welfare Assistance Scheme :

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/suffolk-local-welfare-assistance-scheme>

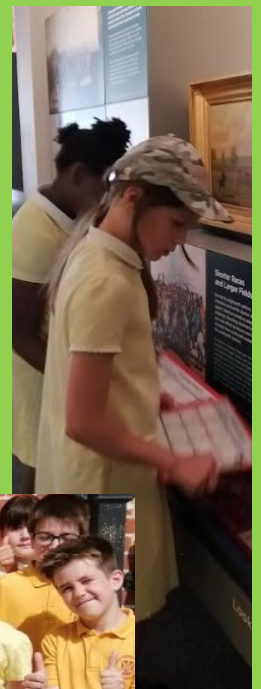
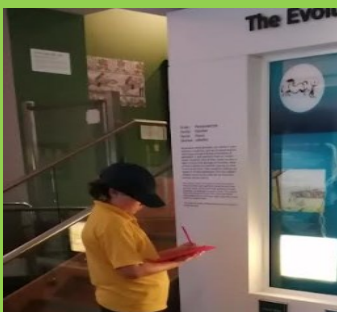
Doorstep Theatre Festival In School

Working with the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds, we enjoy great theatre in school. In June, our children watched live theatre, followed by workshops. This is our third season of drama in school and we look forward to the next season. As usual, we are looking forward to our whole school outing to the pantomime at Theatre Royal.



Year 5 Visit the National Racing Museum

Each year, we learn more about the local geography and history of Newmarket as part of our curriculum.



Goodbye Mrs Cox



Sadly, we say goodbye to Mrs Cox as she begins her journey to ordination within the Church of England. There are so many ways that she has contributed to helping children over the years. Such is her commitment to helping others, she even chopped her hair off to raise funds at our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

She's been a Mental Health First Aider, Drawing and Talking Therapist, Community Choir Leader, Fairtrade Champion (securing our accreditation for the next three years), friend to staff and a positive, cheerful presence around school.

We look forward to hearing about her progress as she begins her studies in Cambridge.

Mrs Cox, on behalf of staff, children and families, we will pray for you as you begin your vocational journey and ask that you remember us in your prayers too.



Vocations Fortnight

Our focus on vocations has expanded beyond the intended fortnight this year because of the positive call for speakers. Children have had the opportunity to;

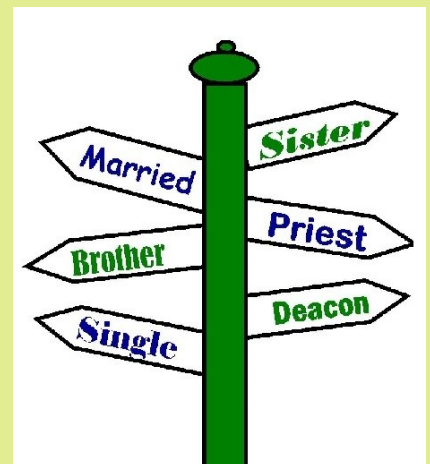
- ⇒ Learn building and construction skills
- ⇒ Meet the PCSO to discuss road safety
- ⇒ Hear from the Fire Service Team (who needed to leave quickly to respond to a call to a fire)
- ⇒ Learn about the many jobs in hospitality from the manager of Bedford Lodge
- ⇒ Discover the range of horse related employment from training to vets
- ⇒ Find out about the work of a consultant anaesthetist
- ⇒ Listen to a lawyer and her path from A levels to become a partner in a London law firm that combines her passions for horses and law



Alongside these talks, we had time to reflect on the vocations that God calls us to do and there were opportunities to reflect on the value of work beyond financial gain. We

discussed service to others and the mental challenge offered by some careers. The children developed great discernment in their questioning of visitors over time. We are so grateful to all the speakers who gave their time.

We are keen to help children to recognise that their many skills can lead to exciting life choices and as part of these conversations, we consider how we can serve others.



Sports Day

Finally, our Sports Day returned for parents to join us. Reception and Year 1 enjoyed their races and carousel of sports cheered on by our families. Mrs Vickrage and Mr Mannell became avid watchers of weather news but managed to dodge the many showers and high winds to get us past the finish line. Thank you for all your help in accommodating shifting timings and plans.



Diary Dates 2023 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Staff Professional Day – Monday 4th September

Staff Professional Day – Tuesday 5th September

Term Commences - Wednesday 6th September

Staff Professional Day – Monday 30th October

Half Term - Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October

Term Ends – Wednesday 20th December

Spring Term 2024

Staff Professional Day – Wednesday 3rd January

Term Commences – Thursday 4th January

Half Term - Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February

Thursday 28th March – Term Ends

Summer Term 2024

Staff Professional Day – Friday 12th April

Term Commences - Monday 15th April

May Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

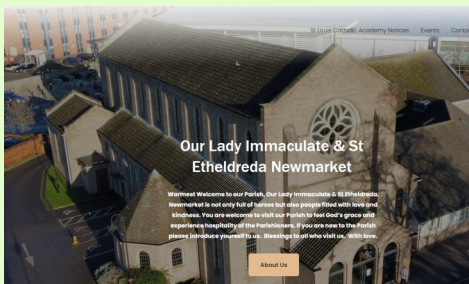
Half Term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Term Ends - Friday 19th July



Our Parish Church

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



St Louis School KS2 Choir has 40 members! Let us know if you wish to join Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4pm led by Ms McCleod– Jones from Norwich Catholic Cathedral.

September

Parent Induction to learning by Phase Group
Reception Little Wandle introduction w/c 18th
KS1 3pm 12th September
LKS2 3pm 12th September
UKS2 3pm 11th September
Year 6 Clare Priory Pilgrimage 21st September

27th September Macmillan Coffee Morning

Reception baseline assessments early September—taking place daily .

October

10th 11th October Parent Consultation Meetings
10th October Young Minds Mental Health Awareness—wear uniform but include something yellow
20th October Show Racism the Red Card—wear red
9th to 20th October Writer's Festival

November

11th November - Remembrance Day
14th—18 November Anti bullying week

December

Sun, 3rd Dec 2023 – Sun, 24th Dec 2023 Advent
Thursday 7th December Whole school Pantomime visit to Theatre Royal
Wednesday 13th December Christmas Dinner and Parties
Wednesday 13th December School Choir singing at Tattersalls—Racing Welfare Concert details tbc
Reception and KS1 Nativity in church—date tbc
Christmas Carols in church
1st December 3.30-5.30 pm Christmas Fair in School Hall

January—July

Fairtrade Celebrations in February—details to be confirmed.

8 - 17 March 2024 British Science Week

7th March World Book Day

15th March Dress as a scientist

23rd March 2024 World Maths Day

KS2 Easter Play—date tbc

May 2023 KS1 Testing

Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May 2024 KS2 SATS

Yr 4 mw/c 2nd June multiplication test

w/c 10th June Phonics Yr 1 screening

Reading at Bedtime with Pizza Supper—date tbc

27th June Summer Art Exhibition

5th July 3.30pm Summer Fair

12th July Sports Day with contingency 15th July

Our school community library will open to families on Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4pm for everyone to enjoy. Each child can loan a book to take home.



Masses 2023 2024

**Families are welcome at all of our Masses
(these sometimes need to change if the Priest is
unexpectedly unavailable)**

**We will update the calendar throughout the
school year**

12th September 9:15 Start of year Mass: Tuesday whole school

1st November School to join parish Mass for All Saints Wednesday

1st December Advent Service: Friday 1:45-3pm

20th December Carol Service Wednesday 1:45-3pm

12th January Start of term Mass: Friday 9:15 whole school

14th February School to join parish Mass for Ash Wednesday

9th May School to join parish Mass for Ascension Thursday

**July Leavers Mass - will depend on the transition dates from secondary schools
closer to the time.**

19th July End of year Mass: Friday 9:15 am whole school

