



March Newsletter 2022

Designated Safeguarding Leaders for the school are Mr Holt and Mrs Flower dsl@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk.

This newsletter can be viewed on our website: www.stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk Information regarding the Xavier Catholic Education Trust can be viewed at: www.xaviercet.org.uk

This newsletter is sent via email only, so please ensure that we have your correct details. This saves on paper and administration. However, if you would like to have a paper copy, please let the office know and we will ensure that you receive one. It is important that parents continue to receive and read this newsletter as it is the main communication channel for the school.

Reminder School News App- Don't forget to download the School News app so you can access our website and updates via your phone or tablet.

United in prayer – the conflict in Ukraine

The last two years have been incredibly challenging but nothing can compare to the current situation in Ukraine. As with any form of conflict or disaster, we will take every day as it comes and will respond to the needs of the children where necessary. It is hard to know what is the right thing to do in these situations and it is likely that by the time you read this newsletter, the situation may have changed again. However, I have included with this newsletter a one page overview of some suggestions as to how you can explain conflict (should you wish to).

In addition, I know that many of you will want to help with humanitarian aid.

There are lots of websites where you can donate. These two (Red Cross and UNICEF), both have a reputation for taking rapid action :

<https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/donate/donate-now-to-protect->

Safeguarding: Should you ever have a concern about the welfare of a child or adult, please come and speak in confidence with the school's safeguarding leads. Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders for the school are Mr Holt and Mrs Flower. If you cannot speak to us in person we can be contacted via email at: dsl@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk . Should you not wish to speak to a member of the school team you can contact Anne Halliday (Xavier Safeguarding Lead) at a.halliday@xaviercet.org.uk or make contact with Surrey Children's Single Point of Access (SPA). The SPA is based at County Hall and acts as the front door to children's services in Surrey. The SPA provides residents and people who work with children in Surrey with direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find the appropriate support for children and families.

Availability: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
Phone: 0300 470 9100
Out of hours phone: 01483 517898 to speak to the emergency team.

A reminder: Year 2 Mothers' Day Mass

We hope that our Year 2 Mothers' Day classroom Mass will take place on Friday 25th March at 9.30am. Please put the date in your diary. If you are not able to attend, a grandmother, auntie or female family member/friend may wish to join us in your absence. More details to follow at a later date.

Value of the Month

This month's value is Thoughtfulness and it ties in beautifully as we enter the period of Lent, when we try to make the extra effort to put others before ourselves.

Last month's value was Trust, meaning you are there for me and I am there for you. Many times last month we were able to congratulate the children for being trusted to do things. I often think we forget how responsible young people can be.

Please join us by rewarding the children for displaying any of our core values.

Lent

We enter an important time of the year with regards to our faith as we enter Lent. At this time of the year we try to focus on reconciliation, prayer and putting others before ourselves. With this newsletter, we have attached a suggested set of simple daily activities which we can focus on as a family at this important time. We also hope to send home CAFOD collection boxes where a small donation can be made for others.

Residential Visits

We hope to run our residential visits for Years 4 to 6 in the summer term. Further details will be coming soon.

Year 2 teaching position Summer term

We are currently advertising for a teacher for the summer term and we will let you know the outcome as soon as possible.

Deputy Headship announcement

I am very pleased to announce that we were successful with the recruitment of a new deputy headteacher. From September, we will be welcoming Miss Gemma Willcox to St Charles. Gemma has been a member of the leadership team at one of our local Catholic schools and impressed us with her calm, collected manner, her knowledge of the needs of the school and her commitment to Catholic leadership. I know that you will make her very welcome. In the interim period, Mrs Curtis and Mrs Brown will assist with leadership duties.

Linked to the above, we aim to have a farewell Mass and presentation for Mrs Flower on Thursday 31st March in the afternoon. We hope that members of the school community will be able to join us.

Two useful links for support for your child

Schools have been asked to make parents aware of the following support services.

<https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/>

<https://surreycountycouncil.newsweaver.co.uk/v2files/>

Top of the Form

Well done to Caramia, Alice, Harry and Liam who took part in the Rotary Club, Top of the Form competition (a bit like University challenge!) The children were a credit to the school during their loss to St Andrews in Cobham.



Volunteers needed

We would like to update our school library this year but as you can appreciate this will be a big job. We are therefore looking for volunteers who may be willing to give some time to this project which will ultimately benefit the children. If you are able to help please contact Mrs Flower at year2@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk

School Attendance

This is a reminder that If you take your child(ren) out of school without authority, you may be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices. Please note that this does not apply to funerals, medical appointments etc.

Disability Awareness Day

As part of our commitment to raising awareness about diversity and as part of our teaching of difference, we were delighted to welcome speakers Toby and Helen Hewson. Toby and Helen are a married couple with cerebral palsy and are committed to sharing their inspirational journey with others. Toby has won numerous awards and is pictured presenting at Downing Street. We are keen to give our children as many experiences as possible to prepare them for life beyond school, so if you are aware of anyone who may be suitable for talking to the children, please do let me know.



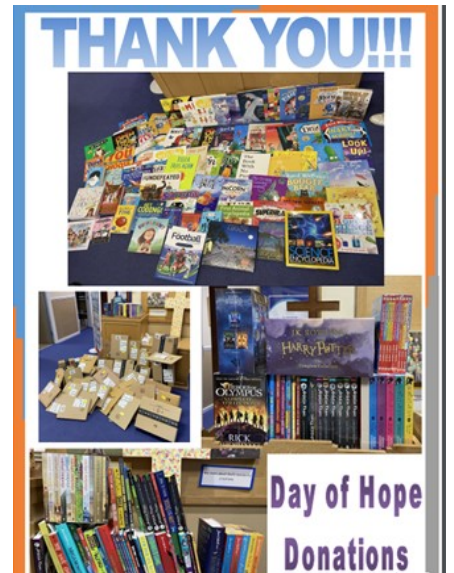
Netball

It has been great to see the children returning to competitive sport. Well done to those children who represented their school at netball against Cobham. We experienced a heavy defeat, but we showed sporting behaviour and a desire to not give up!

Thank you – Our Day of Hope

Our Day of Hope had a different focus this year with our attention centring on re-vamping of our school library. As you know we carefully selected a book list, with many of the books focussing on equality and diversity. The intention being that by raising awareness of diversity through education, we will bring some hope that our world

will be a better place in the future. The response from you was, to put it frankly, overwhelming! Thank you so much for your generosity. We have so many new books which we look forward to introducing to the children very soon.



Cross country success

Some of our children have been selected to train at an elite running club held at Cleves school. This has resulted in a number of our children running at Border League Cross country events, which cover a number of elite running clubs across the county taking part. I was so proud to witness our children running on a muddy, wet and windy Sunday afternoon at Guildford last month. They all showed courage and persistence. A particular mention should go to Mya and Charlie who featured in the top 10 finishers in their race.

Nursery offers for September 2022 have now been sent out to all those who applied. Please contact the office with any questions you may have.

Sportshall Athletics 3rd Place

Huge congratulations to our Under 11 indoor athletics team who took part in a district competition at the Xcel sports centre in Walton. Competing against many larger schools, we put in an incredible 3rd place performance. I was so proud of the team. Linked with this, well done to Henry in Year 6 who was selected to represent Surrey at the sportshall indoor athletics championships, where he was part of the winning team on the day, what an achievement!

Star Gazing Workshop

Unfortunately, yet again it was not a clear night and therefore the workshop did not include star gazing but once again a great time was had by all that attended. The Star Gazing Workshop organised by Mrs Hennessy was a great success. Mr Holway who led the session was a wealth of knowledge as always. Thank you to those who took part. It is great to see science being brought to life!

The lost property box has been reinstated and can be found by the corridor to Year 5. Please ensure your child's property is labelled as it is so much easier to return to the right person if their name is on it.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7th Mar	-	Year 6 Screening
8th Mar	-	Kew Gardens Yr 5
10th Mar	-	Textile Recycling
11th Mar	-	Year 3 Mini Olympics at Cleves
15th Mar	-	Working Scientifically Day
15th Mar	-	School Disco
16th Mar	-	INSET DAY
18th Mar	-	Year 2 Mini Olympics at Cleves
22nd Mar	-	School Council to Parliament
24th Mar	-	Lent Reconciliation 9:30am Yr4
25th Mar	-	Mothers Day Mass Yr2 9:30am
28th Mar	-	Cross Country event at St Georges 3pm
29th Mar	-	School Photos
31st Mar	-	Last Swimming for Year 5
31st Mar	-	End of Term Mass (time tbc)
1st April	-	End of Term (No PM nursery)
19th April	-	Summer Term starts
21st April	-	Swimming begins Year 3

20th—22nd April	-	Bikeability Yr5
2nd May	-	Bank Holiday
3rd May	-	Start of Term Mass Yr1 10am
3rd-4th May	-	Year 5 Residential to Henley Fort
5th May	-	British Wildlife Centre Trip Reception
12th-13th May	-	Year 4 Residential to Juniper Hall
26th May	-	Feast of the Ascension 10am
27th May	-	Jubilee Celebration
30th May-3rd June	-	HALF TERM
6th—8th Jun	-	Year 6 Residential to Bowles
16th June	-	Primary Music Festival
20th June	-	Year 3 Mini Olympics
22nd June	-	Year 3 Legoland
23rd June	-	Year 6 Life of Christ
8th July	-	INSET Day
14th July	-	Last swimming Year 3
21st July	-	Leavers Assembly and Mass
22nd July	-	End of academic year



XAVIER SCHOOLS' TERM DATES 2022-2023

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Term starts	Monday 5th September 2022
Half term	Monday 24th to Friday 28th October 2022
Term ends	Wednesday 21st December 2022

SPRING TERM 2023

Term starts	Monday 9th January 2023
Half term	Monday 13th to Friday 17th February 2023
Term ends	Friday 31st March 2023

SUMMER TERM 2023

Term starts	Monday 17th April 2023
Half term	Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
Term ends	Friday 21st July 2023
Bank Holidays	Monday 1st May 2023

INSET DAYS

5 September 22
7 October 22
28 November 22
15 March 23
26 May 23 TBC
7 July 23

Covid Update

We have been advised by Surrey that from a school point of view the following actions should be noted:

The latest guidance from the government is in force up to April 1st when the rules will then change slightly to reflect there is no more free testing. We have therefore been advised to operate in line with the latest Surrey guidance which is summarised below:

Pupils/Students and staff should attend if they are well

Pupils/Students and staff should stay at home if they are unwell

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, seek a PCR Test (available until end March 2022) and if positive, stay at home for 5 full days then continue to follow guidance regarding testing.

Other things to note are :

Asymptomatic testing programme in schools has now stopped, no more test kits will be provided but there is a contingency plan at DfE to reinstate testing if cases flare again

Free testing for the general public, both LFT and PCR will cease on April 1st

Close contacts of positive Covid cases are expected to attend school as long as they are well enough to do so.

Should circumstances change I will let you know. I think the key message is to keep being careful and mindful of others. To be fair to everyone, you have done this throughout the pandemic. We have updated our Covid risk assessment in light of the new guidance, we are currently on Version 18!

A proposed change to the school uniform for September

I met with the governors at St Charles to discuss a small but important change to the school uniform provision for September. Any proposed changes to the school uniform should be shared with parents prior to approval in case of any strong objections. I am proposing that from September, girls will be permitted to wear school trousers to school. If you object to the following proposal please let me know via email to mrholt@stcharlesb.surrey.sch.uk by Friday 18th March and I will feedback to the governing body. Assuming we get the ok to proceed we will be in contact with parents regarding the appropriate style and colour of school trousers that can be worn by the girls.

An addition to the School's Behaviour Policy

All schools have needed to make an adjustment to their behaviour policies in line with the duty on schools to address new exclusion regulations. I would want to stress that exclusion (the DFE's term, not mine) is always a last resort. I copy below the addition to the policy that you need to be aware of:

Exclusion

A decision to exclude, either internally, for a fixed-period (referred to as a suspension) or permanently will only be considered when alternative options have been explored. We will make every effort to meet the needs of all pupils and ensure a range of strategies have been used to address inappropriate behaviour. However, we recognise that in some serious situations, exclusion may be necessary.

A serious offence could by itself justify a pupil's exclusion e.g.

- Violence towards an adult or pupil
- Any form of peer-on-peer abuse
- Sustained bullying
- Frequent high-level disruption to lessons
- Frequent high levels of non-compliance

If the Headteacher is considering exclusion, he/she will follow the most recent Exclusion Guidance: Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Internal exclusion is when a pupil is withdrawn from class for a limited period of time, supervised by a member of staff in another part of the school whilst completing school work. The length of the internal exclusion will be proportionate to the behaviour. Parents/carers will be informed when an internal exclusion is issued. The pupil will have access to movement breaks, toilet facilities, water and snacks/lunch.

Suspension is when a pupil is excluded from school and must remain at home for a fixed period of time. Suspension will only be used for serious breaches of the behaviour policy.

Permanent exclusion is the most serious sanction a school can give. Permanent exclusion will always be a last resort and will only be used in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches of the behaviour policy.