



Dear Parents / Carers

This week all the children have been learning about their rights as children, the NSPCC, Childline and how important it is to **SPEAK OUT AND STAY SAFE.**



Children met 'Buddy' who helps them to remember what they should do if they are worried. Please see my additional letter about the programme. We have also carried out pupil surveys this week to find out how the children feel about their learning, their class and the adults that work with them and the school as a whole. As part of the survey we ask children about whether they feel safe at school and we have asked all children to identify a trusted adult that they can talk to in and out of school. I will let you know the results of the survey when we have them all back from each class.

Please make sure you have had your say too regarding the following:

Extension of the school day <https://forms.office.com/e/YQb1nfzM6>

Deadline: Monday 18th March @ 9am

Parent Survey <https://forms.office.com/e/kDcb4X1J0M>

Deadline: Tuesday 19th March @ 9am

In our learning this week.....

Year 1 children have been linking shapes together in their gymnastic sequences, observing changes in materials when they are heated or cooled, and thinking about being safe around medicines in PSHE&RSE

Year 2 children have been solving challenging subtraction equations in maths (lots of exchanging going on!), reflecting on their trip to Wisley by writing some lovely recounts, and comparing England to India.

Reception children sadly said goodbye to the ducklings today. They have had such a great time with them: writing letters to the farmer, creating rule posters about how to care for them, writing stories about the ducklings' adventures and, of course, having lots of cuddles.

The children also had a 'boomwhackers' week and loved making their own music!



FYI - Year Teams send out weekly information to parents via Teams about the upcoming learning in the following week. You can also see it outlined on windows and doors of classroom. Please make sure you look at the learning information that they send out to you should you wish to have more 'in the know' discussions with your child(ren) about what they have been learning at school.

We are looking forward to Science week next, so expect to hear a lot about that very soon.

White shirts (lab coats) at the ready please.



See you Monday
Mrs Cary

21st March Event for Smart phone free childhood campaign

You may have seen in the press the new campaign to connect parents in local communities so that together they can agree not to give their children smartphones until at least 14, or social media before the age of 16.

As part of the national movement, St Lawrence and The Orchard schools have set up a whats app group for parents wanting to delay giving smartphones to their children or those concerned by the issue.

On **Thursday 21st March @ 8pm at St Mary's Church**, the team leading this initiative for The Orchard, St Lawrence and St Albans, are pleased to be hosting a live stream of Jonathan Haidt's talk, on Smartphone vs Smart Kids. Jonathan is widely considered to be the leading global voice on the changing nature of childhood due to smartphones and social media. A renowned social psychologist and author, he's currently the Professor of Ethical Leadership at NYU.

The talk is **8.30pm - 9.30pm** but please come from **8pm and BYOB!** Join the WhatsApp to confirm you're attending.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GqbmEjXuW3x7tamVozRN23>



School Business Manager Vacancy @ St Lawrence Junior School

As a result of Mrs Robert's departure at St Lawrence, there is now a School Business Manager vacancy that St Lawrence are excited to share with the school community.

Do you have the knowledge and skills to work as part of the Senior Leadership Team in this dynamic and pivotal role?

It will be a fulltime position with flexibility around working hours and the option to undertake some hybrid working.

Please do visit Eteach to see the full advert and spread the word! **Closing date: Wednesday 20th March @ 12 noon.**

<https://www.eteach.com/jobs?keywords=school%20business%20manager>

Extension of the School Day

Please make sure that you let us know if you have any concerns or questions about the extension of the school day starting in September 2024.



Deadline for Responses is Monday 18th March 2024 @ 9am

<https://forms.office.com/e/YQb1nfzVM6>

Easter Disco

Tuesday 26th March 2024



Please make sure your purchase your child's disco ticket by the deadline.

19/03/2024 @ 16:00

There will be **no tickets sold after this deadline** has passed due to the health and safety organisation that needs to be done prior to the disco.

No exceptions!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=74253>

Value Awards

Our values are: **Courage**, **Determination**, **Respect** and **Kindness**.

Well done to all these children:

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Liam	Maple	Molly	Beech	Lewis
Elm	Mabel	Rowan	Otilie	Oak	Jenson
Holly	Charlotte	Willow	Matilda	Sycamore	Maddie
		Pine	Chloe		

Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Dates for the Diary

w/c Monday 18th March

Science week



Thursday 28th March

School finishes @ 1:45pm



Monday 18th March

Deadline for responses for
Extension of the School Day Proposal
9am



Tuesday 19th March

Deadline for the completion of the
Annual Parent Survey
9am



Tuesday 19th March

Sublime Science Workshop



Thursday 21st March

Smart Phone Free Campaign
8pm arrival and 8:30pm – 9:30pm meeting



Friday 22nd March

PTA: Quiz Night



Tuesday 26th March

PTA: Easter Disco &
Easter Colouring Competition



Monday 15th April

Start of Summer Term



A few things coming up....

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Year 1 Phonic Screening - Meeting for Parents
2:40pm
More details to follow shortly



Tuesday 7th May

Reception; Space VR Experience



Monday 10th June

Phonic Screening Check Week



Friday 14th June

Sports Day and Family Picnic



YOU HAVE UNTIL 10PM TONIGHT TO BOOK YOU TABLE

The Orchard



Friday 22nd March 2024

Click here to book your ticket!

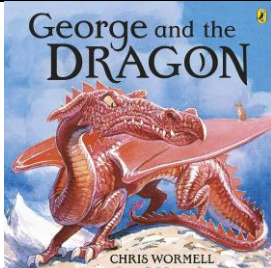
<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=74207>

Orchard Reading Recommendations



You can click on the book covers to link you to Amazon to read more about each book.

Reception



Jesse In Elm Class recommends

George and Dragon by Christopher Wormell

He was an awesome and frightening creature, terrorising whole armies, destroying castles, demolishing forests and kidnapping princesses. But this mighty dragon had a deep, dark secret. . . .

I'll give you a clue.....🐉

Year 1



This is a favourite in Maple Class.

Leo D recommends the book

Keep Running Gingerbread Man

by Steve Smallman.

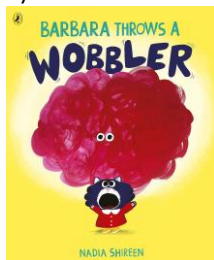
Leo says that it is a really funny book and the gingerbread man is really clever because he gets away from everyone.

Staff

Ever been in a bad mood.....? Yep...me too!

Barbara Throws A Wobbler

by Nadia Shireen



has been recommended by Mrs Denton.

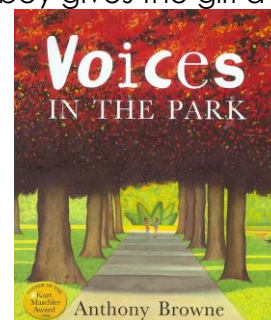
This bright and colourful book helps parents and children to share and explore how it feels to be in the middle of "one of those days" using humour and warmth to navigate "a wobbler".

Year 2

Rosie in Oak class recommends

Voices in the Park by Anthony Browne.

She says, "I like it because there are interesting things to look at. My favourite bit in it is when the children are together in the park because the boy gives the girl a rose."



Artist of the week: Bill Withers

Soul & R&B



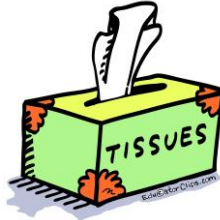
Click here to listen to some of his soulful music:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7LlHeTQJgMKLPyKZb7iXMO?si=90aa69f7066e4265>

Year 2: A Few Pictures from the Wisley Trip



Another plea for boxes of tissues.....



the children go through them like wildfire.

Thank you!