

Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

29th November 2024

I want to start by saying how lovely it was to welcome so many of you into school on Wednesday. I trust that you came away clear about your child's attitude to learning and the progress they are making in school.

I hope their targets have provided you with ideas about ways you can incorporate your child's learning into conversations and activities at home. I am grateful to the teachers and to yourselves for making the afternoon work so smoothly. From many of the comments I have received, it is clear that many of you are really pleased with the educational opportunities, love and care your child receives at Sacred Heart.

One of the things you might have noticed on your visit was the temperature. Luckily the weather has warmed up a bit in the last week but I wanted to provide you with a heating update. Last Friday I met with the surveyor and the Diocesan building team. Thankfully, the Diocese has agreed to fund the heating repairs and supply a large number of additional radiators to cover the lead time.

I also wanted to put your minds at rest. There are places in the school that run off a separate system to the main boilers. These are supplying heating to some of the communal areas. We also have a number of portable units in addition to the new electric radiators, which means for much of the school we are able to maintain a pleasant working temperature. Nevertheless, we look forward to the repairs and reducing the school electricity bill.

Sayers Croft

On Friday we welcomed back our Y6 children and staff. They emerged tired but happy from the coach after a week in the Surrey countryside. The weather was dry but fresh and meant that they could enjoy the full range of activities. I am, as always, grateful to all the staff who put themselves forward to give the children such a brilliant opportunity.

Book Competition

Congratulations to our Book Quiz Team of 2024 who managed to win first place at the South London annual Book Quiz held at Emanuel School on Thursday. They received a beautiful trophy for the school and a bag of free books for the library. Well done to Maria Aleem, Anne Marie Bogdanovic, Ivor Somorjay and Konrad Sokol for representing our school so brilliantly.



Tag Rugby Competition

This morning 10 brave souls will brave the cold to take part in a Tag Rugby competition held at Rosslyn Park Rugby Club. The fact the competition is in an actual rugby ground should make up for the cold hands. We wish them the very best

Catholic Social Teaching

Parents may or not be aware of Catholic Social teaching. CST is framing what was once called doing 'good work' into a series of thoughts and actions that promote seeking justice, fairness, equality and dignity for all. Working with Southwark Caritas, we have refined the strands of CST into 6 main areas that the children will think about and act upon each year. Together these areas can be considered as 'Working towards the Common Good'. As Jesus said, "Love your neighbour as yourself".

A practical example of "Working towards the Common Good" comes via a current call from both our School Council and Faith Friends:

Firstly, during Monday's Gospel Assembly (which will mark the beginning of Advent and the dressing of the tree), our Faith Friends will be speaking to their peers about the CAFOD DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal.

Catholic Social Teaching continued...

Our Faith Friend representatives have chosen this appeal from a choice provided to them, owing to the fact it is such a relevant and pressing issue.

They will be spreading the word to the rest of the school to ensure we collect enough funds for this very worthy cause.

At the same time, School council will start accepting food bank donations (from Monday 2nd December – Thursday 12th December). Any donated food will be delivered to the food bank on Friday 13th December. School Council children have created posters and will be talking to classes about this.

The Wednesday Word is Advent

'Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. The birth of Jesus brings us the good news that we are loved immensely by God' Pope Francis

This is the most important time in the Churches calendar. We prepare for the birth of Jesus. Nowhere is this time more evident than in a primary school.

All parents are invited to share the magic of the season at the Y3-Y6 Advent Service, which will take place on Monday 16th December from 4.00 to 5.00pm at Sacred Heart Church, Battersea. As is the Sacred Heart tradition, the expectation is that all KS2 pupils will attend the service, as they will be collectively rejoicing along with clergy, staff and parents. KS2 classes will walk down to the church promptly after school with their class teachers, in readiness for the start of the service at 4pm. Parents and carers (and Fruity Club if this applies) will then collect their children from the Church at 5pm. Further details regarding the event will follow via Parentmail.

Hilary House News

On Thursday, Hilary House held a coffee morning for parents on the topic of Gestalt Language Processing. GLP is a way that some children, including many autistic children, learn to communicate. Instead of picking up words one at a time, they learn and understand language in chunks or phrases (called "gestalts"), like "I want to go outside" or "Are you okay" Over time, these chunks can be broken down and combined to build more flexible language. It was wonderful to share practical tips and ideas with parents, helping them support their children's communication journey at home.

Following our coffee morning, we had an amazing social outing with families at the Battersea Power Station Glide Ice Rink. Parents, children, and staff all enjoyed skating (or holding onto the side!). ITV's this morning were on site filming at the time and featured some of our children skating in the background! It was a great opportunity for a different PE lesson and allowed us to strengthen our school community and have some winter fun together.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for both events – your participation helps make Hilary House such a special place.



Key Dates of Events

Date	Event
Monday 2 nd December	Advent Assembly Dress the tree – EYFS and KS1
Wednesday 4 th December	Reception Class Assembly – 9.15am
Wednesday 4 th December	Royal Academy of Culinary Arts Workshop Y4
Monday 9 th - Friday 13 th December	Book fair
Monday 9 th December	Flu Vaccinations (parents to sign up via link from school nursing team)
Tuesday 10 th December	Y6 Height and Weight programme with NHS nursing team
Tuesday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
Wednesday 11 th December	Nursery Sing-a-longs 11.15am & 3.00pm
Thursday 12 th December	KS2 Music Concert 2pm
Monday 16 th December	KS2 Advent Service at Sacred Heart Church 4.00-5.00pm. all KS2 children to attend the service. Parents are very welcome to join us. Dismissal from Church at 5.00pm
Tuesday 17 th December	KS1 Nativity: 9.30am & 2.00pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Reception Sing-a-longs 2.45pm
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Parties
Friday 20 th December	School closes at 1.30pm
Monday 6 th January	School re-opens - start of Spring term

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE EDUCATION WELLBEING SERVICE

Join us for an engaging online introduction to the Education Wellbeing Service.

Explore our purpose and the range of support we offer to enhance the wellbeing of you and your family.

Gain a clear understanding of how to effectively access our resources and confidently make a referral to our service, empowering yourself towards a brighter future.



NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Education
Wellbeing
Service

DATE / TIME

Wednesday 4th December
10.00-11.00 am / 12.30-1.30 pm

LOCATION:

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event
for free on Eventbrite
by scanning the QR
Code or following the
link below:

[Click here to book](#)



wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

BUILDING STRONG BONDS: THE CIRCLE OF SECURITY FOR A HEALTHY AND SECURE ATTACHMENT

Join us for an insightful workshop designed for parents and carers, where we will explore the Circle of Security model, a proven approach to fostering secure and healthy attachments with children.

This session will guide you through the fundamental principles of the model, helping you understand your child's emotional needs and how to respond in ways that build trust and security.

You will learn strategies to enhance your caregiving skills, promoting a strong, supportive bond that nurtures your child's development and well-being.



NHS
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St George's Mental Health
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DATE / TIME

Monday 2nd December
7.00-8.00 pm



Scan the
QR code
or
[click here](#)

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