



Theme for next week: Safer Internet

### Head's Message

Dear Parents,

The Novel Coronavirus is currently dominating the headlines. As yet, there are no confirmed cases of the virus in the UK, so there is no need for medical alarm at this stage. We will continue to monitor the situation and follow the advice of Public Health England (PHE) to protect the health of our school community. We encourage you to follow these updates on the PHE website too, as it offers sensible and unbiased information to anyone who may be worried. Based on the current evidence from WHO and PHE, there is no immediate cause for concern.

The latest update from the NHS can be found here [www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus). As half-term approaches, we ask that any pupil or family who intends to travel to/from or have direct contact with anyone from a Novel Coronavirus affected area, inform us immediately. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office currently advises against travel to Hubei Province.

Please note:

- Any pupil, parent or visitor who has travelled to or been in direct contact with anyone from a Novel Coronavirus affected area may be asked to remain at home to prevent the potential spread of the virus.

The wellbeing of our whole community is of the utmost importance at this time, especially those from China and other affected areas. I am sure you will join me in supporting them during this worrying period. We will continue to keep you informed and updated, should official advice change.

During our assemblies this week, we discussed Brexit. I took the pupils back to the start of the process which was more than three years ago, and revisited the events which led to the recent election in December 2019, the majority vote and Parliament's approval which means we leave the EU today. We now have 11 months to prepare and make the final arrangements before leaving formally in December.

Be prepared, as your children might ask you questions. I am hoping they will be able to explain the electorate, referendum, Article 50, and how the word Brexit, came to exist.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom



Last week, St Aubyn's welcomed Blackheath Prep School for A-D girls football fixtures. The A team came up against a very strong Blackheath team and, unfortunately, struggled to create many chances at goal. Despite losing 4-1 they worked exceptionally hard throughout the match and were able to learn a lot from the game. The B team also had a very tough match, and despite creating a few chances, they too lost their match. In the C and D fixtures it was goals galore, with both teams winning and more than 10 goals being scored between them! Well done to all the girls.



Last Friday evening, teams of teachers and parents battled for the prestigious title of SASS Quiz winner. Parents who did not attend the annual SASS quiz will be pleased to learn that the teachers again walked away as winners of the competition.

Parents who attended and were competing against them may have been less happy! Well done to the winning team!



The Lego Challenge this week was to build a freestanding tower. There were a few collapsed towers along the way, but everyone had fun trying to work out how best to support their structures.

In maths, Year 2 have been using a useful app on the iPads called Clock Demonstrator. It helps the children to learn digital times by displaying the corresponding analogue time.

The app also allows the user to understand duration of time through adding and subtracting hours and minutes. iPads are a regular feature in Year 2's lessons and the children are becoming experts in using them .



In art this week, the Year 8 prop-making team have been busy creating costumes for the upcoming year 2 play.



Suleiman (4UM) and Sam (5MA) both received their ABRSM certificates from Mr Blom this week. Many congratulations to them both.



Former pupil, Peace, now studying at Queenswood School, has been selected to play for England in the U17 Netball Europe Cup in March and should, hopefully, get her first cap. A wonderful achievement.



Year 6 have been studying different types and styles of poetry this week. They have been analysing Ted Hughes' 'Pike'. Their ideas were superb and they

recognised how Hughes views the fish, as well as identifying which techniques he employs.



Congratulations to Yusuf and Sihaam in 3NL who received their Times Table Ambassador award last week.



All Year 4 girls took part in A-C netball fixtures on Thursday against Bancroft's. The A team dominated their match throughout, winning 15-0 and it was a similar story with the B team who won 8-2. The C team had a bit of a tougher match and, unfortunately, lost 8-1, but the girls made really good progress throughout the match.



Ezra in 5MA received a Headmaster's Commendation in assembly this week for her excellent English work.



The U9 rugby team played their first match of the year against Keble School on Thursday. Despite mixed results, there were some fine performances from both schools. All the boys should be proud of their efforts.



This week, in design and technology, Year 6 pupils have been learning how to use a sewing machine. They have been sewing the zips on their pencil cases.



Years 7 and 8 have enjoyed creating French sentence challenges for the rest of the School to figure out. Using the bricks from the display, they made up funny, odd or really puzzling stories which other year groups have to translate to win the challenge.



In Monday morning's assembly, Camilla and Laila, both in 5AM, performed a piece called 'The Uninvited Guest' which they wrote themselves. Well done girls!