



Head's Message

Theme for next week : Resilience

Dear Parents,

What a week this has been. The coronavirus continues to spread and the immediate concern for us is the number of people affected in Northern Italy. I have included updated advice for travellers returning to the UK from specific areas affected by COVID-19, which you can also find at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

This is a summary of what to do if you are unsure:

Call 111 now if you have been:

- to Hubei province in China in the last 14 days.
- to Iran, areas of northern Italy in lockdown or "special care zone" areas in South Korea since 19 February.
- to other parts of mainland China or South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath.
- to other parts of northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Myanmar since 19 February and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath.
- in close contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus.

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call [111](https://www.nhs.uk/111), stay indoors and avoid close contact with other people.

Moving on to more positive topics, I am pleased to report that our pupils have done well in their 11+ entrance tests. Out of a total of 54 children (30 boys; 24 girls) taking entry tests to independent schools, a total of 46 children (27 boys; 19 girls) have received firm offers of places at one or more of their chosen schools. A total of 6 pupils (4 boys; 2 girls) were offered a total of 8 awards. I offer my congratulations to all of these pupils.

It is also pleasing to note that most parents have made sensible choices and have chosen schools that match the profile of their child. Placing a child in the wrong school at 11 may have a negative effect on their long-term academic development and confidence, so it is important to get this right.

On 6 March, pupils will be sitting the St. Aubyn's 11+ exam. I would like to remind parents of our Year 6 pupils to book an appointment to see me if you would like your child to remain here for Years 7 and 8.

Our Sports Trip is due to take place over the Easter break and we are still very much hoping that this will go ahead. However, we will continue to monitor the situation and latest government guidance and will keep you updated as the need arises.

In the meantime, please help to support us in minimising the spread of the virus by reminding your children to follow basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing/coughing into a tissue.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

-Winston Churchill-



On Wednesday, St. Aubyn's competed in the U11 Mixed Redbridge Primary Schools Tournament. As part of qualification to the London Youth Games, the team competed against sixteen other local schools hoping to win the overall tournament and qualify for the next round. Great teamwork ensured that the team progressed to the knock-out stages. Facing Snaresbrook Primary in the quarter-finals, a good number of chances were created, but Snaresbrook secured the win by scoring the only goal of the game. Despite this loss, St Aubyn's finished in overall fifth place which is a fine achievement. Well done to Shriya, Laila, Alice, Sophie, Lottie, Aran, Barnaby, Monty, Samyak and Rayyan for their energy and efforts on the day.



Book Wagon Book Fair visited the Senior School this week in the Library. Year 6 greatly enjoyed the specially selected titles, with our visitors from the Book Wagon creating a real buzz around reading.



The U10A and B teams played against Bancroft's on Monday. The U10A team lost 0-2 in a close re-match of their recent win whilst the U10Bs won 3-0 in their first game of the term with two goals from James (Year 4). Well done to all the boys.



Yesterday, the U11A netball team took part in the IAPS netball competition. To date, the girls have not had too many challenging matches and were, therefore, looking forward to competing against some very strong schools. Despite a difficult start, the girls remained focused, and qualified for the plate semi-final. A fantastic performance led them to a 6-2 win and they went on to face Kings Ely in the final. In a very close match, it was fantastic to see such determination from the girls to win the match 5-3 and be crowned Plate Champions. This has given them some very good experience in the lead up to the National Netball Cup next Wednesday. Well done, girls.



This week in English, Year 8 have been studying a speech by Greta Thunberg. They have been analysing how her ideas are structured.



Haileybury's next Open Morning will be held on Saturday, 14 March at 9.30am. Please visit haileybury.com for further information.



Year 2 have been learning about sequels in English this week, focusing on the tale of 'Jim and the beanstalk' by Raymond Briggs. Strange beanstalk-like structures have appeared in classrooms and

giant footprints have been discovered outside. Hopefully, the children can find answers to these bizarre occurrences!



Year 3 enjoyed their first swimming lesson this week. They were well organised and very well behaved. Well done, Year 3!

In their last league game of the season, the 1st XI football team played against King Alfred's School. Despite a goal from Tom (Year 8), they lost 1-5.



The Year 2 Eco-Science after-school activity has been carrying out a bird watch on the School grounds using a survey from the RSPB Big Garden Watch. The children walked around the School, recording the species and the number of birds they observed. They collated their data and submitted their findings on the RSPB website. The following week, the children made bird feeders out of pine cones and a mixture of lard and bird seeds, in order to support our current avian visitors and to hopefully attract some new ones. Finally, they chose some branches within the wooded area of the School grounds to hang the bird feeders.



5MA have started their new topic on coasts. They used maps to identify and locate the most popular coastal towns in the UK.

Park School for Girls are holding their Open Morning tomorrow from 10am to 12.30pm. For more information, please visit their website www.parkschool.org.uk