



Theme for next week : Anti-Bullying Week– United Against Bullying

### Head's Message

Dear Parents,

What a week it has been! We started off with the excitement and drama of the US presidential election and finished the week with the possible discovery of a vaccine. Both news items had a positive impact on the markets and seemed to inject a sense of relief that there might finally be an end to the restrictions imposed by the ongoing effects of COVID-19. The virus is still out there and none of us can afford to be complacent. The R number still needs to come down and we are reliant upon all sectors of society respecting and abiding by lockdown restrictions. We still have a long way to go before the vaccine is rolled out and antibody tests are readily available.

During assemblies this week, we celebrated Remembrance. It is 75 years since the end of WW2. Remembrance Sunday is a day to remember the sacrifices made by members of the armed forces and civilians in times of war. We are reminded of the importance of peace and the need to work together to keep it. During WW2, 400,000 British and Commonwealth forces died. We also celebrate the people who came back from the war, as well as those who worked so hard to rebuild our country afterwards.

In the assembly, I spoke of the idea of service and sacrifice—what this means during the time of war and what it means for us today. During the coronavirus pandemic, as in WW2, many people offered their services to help others and bring about relief. We think of the teachers looking after key workers' children in lockdown, nurses, doctors, armed forces and the community volunteers who helped at food banks. Those serving are generally more at risk and exposed, even with PPE equipment. I am sure many of you have had direct experiences of these dangers via your family or friends. During the war, people offered their services and worked for the local community, often putting themselves in harm's way. They had to leave loved ones behind to go and fight and defend freedom for everyone (volunteers, Armed Forces, Medical staff) fighting on the frontline with the risk of being killed (Armed Forces). Some sacrifices were more significant than others, but they all played a part in defeating the enemy and winning the war.

During COVID-19, helpers such as foodbank volunteers and NHS volunteers, have faced danger to help others. They have put themselves in danger on behalf of their communities and their country. Our NHS workers have made huge sacrifices by leaving loved ones to live alone in special accommodation to protect their families from catching the virus. They put themselves in danger every day by working directly with people who have contracted the virus or through medical research and trying to find a vaccine.

Service and sacrifice help make our communities safe, saves lives and protects our freedom in times of crisis. Remembrance is about saying thank you and not forgetting those who gave their lives in service and sacrifice. The way we remember and say thank you is to wear a poppy. I am sure the NHS rainbow will forever remind us of the pandemic. These symbols remind us to take time to remember and thank all the people who gave in service and sacrifice.

Have a super weekend.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom





Miss Cook entered a competition in October in the hope of winning a book bundle from publishers, Little Tiger and was lucky enough to claim the prize! She can't wait to share the books with our pupils!

In Science this week, Year 2 have been developing their understanding of 'keeping fit'. They have been performing a range of fitness tasks to see which ones really get their hearts pumping! They gave each exercise a score out of 10, with 10 being really tough and getting you quite out of breath. A range of opinions was shared on each task, though all agreed that regular exercise is vital for our mental and physical well-being.



This week, Year 1 have had great fun creating their own works of art based on colour schemes used by the Dutch painter, Piet Mondrian.



Traditionally, our Cadet Corps would have attended the annual Remembrance parade at St Mary's Church. This year, due to Covid restrictions, Mr Lawson, in the presence of Sir Iain Duncan-Smith, laid a wreath on behalf of the School at the church. This



week, pupils have all been encouraged to take some time to reflect on the sacrifice of so many. 'Lest We Forget'.



Senior School held their Construction Competition last Friday afternoon. Congratulations to Hayton who



were the winners with a free-standing tower of 2.12 metres.

The year 6 coders were busy creating games for each other using Kodu this week. Some children were particularly diabolical, using hidden paths and secret exits.



Congratulations to Nicholas (York house) for winning the Years 7 and 8 House Badminton Competition which took place this week.

Well done also to Hayton for winning the overall (Middle and Seniors) Football Competition.



Finally, congratulations to Grove for winning the overall (Middle and Seniors) Netball Competition.



Children in Reception have created a truly wonderful display of poppies in honour of Remembrance Day this week. Well done

to them all for their hard work.

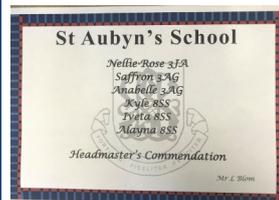
5MA have been using their reasoning and problem solving skills to solve missing number multiplications; they enjoyed the novelty of using their desks to solve the answers.



Year 8 have been recording nature from observation using a variety of media and have produced some beautiful drawings!



Zack in 6MG produced a stunning piece of art work for his Literature Circle's session. This work was created after reading a section of 'The Midnight Palace' by Carlos Ruiz Zafon - a beautiful text. Zack's work shows what he was able to picture after reading the book. We are very impressed with his efforts.



Many congratulations to these pupils who received a Headmaster's Commendation this week.