



Head's Message

Theme for next week : Advent

Dear Parents,

I often spend time walking around the School, monitoring pupils whilst they are engaged in their after-school activities. This also gives me the opportunity to stop and chat with our parents. As you would expect, these conversations revolve around the pandemic and the situation that we subsequently find ourselves in as a result of it. It is actually quite hard to talk about anything else! However, the overriding message from these conversations is that our parents are appreciative of the School's endeavours to provide an experience for the children that is as close as possible to that which they experienced prior to the pandemic. I am very appreciative of this acknowledgement; it is vital that children attend school and feel that it is a place which offers normality in our disrupted world.

The School magazine is now available on the website, should you wish to peruse it before the hard copies are issued later this term. I thank Miss Wear for her excellent effort in producing a magazine this year, under slightly more challenging circumstances. However, it is also a timely reminder that there were still plenty of successes and achievements to celebrate, in spite of the spread of the pandemic in the latter part of the year.

In assembly on Monday, I focused on the theme of responsibility. I linked responsibility to respect because I wanted the children to consider the reasons for respect and the responsibility it brings. Which people do we respect the most? What responsibilities come with respect?

Surgeons often hold our lives in their hands. This is a tremendous responsibility and we need to have complete trust in their judgement and abilities. Surgeons gain respect for this. People who fly aircraft have responsibility for making life-saving decisions, often with hundreds of lives depending on them. This is a huge responsibility but do they deserve our respect? I am sure they do. Most of you will respect the teachers who have taught your children. I hope that this is because you can trust them, as they are caring, dedicated and fair. They also show respect for you and are willing to spend time helping your children learn new skills. We must accept that with trust comes responsibility.

Unfortunately, thoughtless actions can lead to a loss of respect. All of those people mentioned above could cause harm if they did not take their responsibilities seriously and treat those in their care with respect. Likewise, we owe these people respect because they have chosen challenging careers and simple mistakes have far-reaching consequences. We often read of famous people in the news who have been respected in their areas of expertise but, through their own irresponsible actions, have lost the respect of others.

Enjoy the weekend.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open the door of hope.

-Pope Benedict XV1-

Over the last two years, St Aubyn's has launched an appeal at Christmas time to support those in our community who are less fortunate. This year, as the country contends with the ongoing pandemic and more and more people are turning to foodbanks to feed their families, Senior School Council spearheaded a whole school initiative to collect food to be donated to the Redbridge Foodbank.

Our parents and pupils rose to the challenge, so much so that we were actually asked to delay making our second donation trip, so they had time to process all the items from the first! Our Senior School Council team worked incredibly hard to load the minibus and would like to thank pupils for their donations.





This week, Year 5 auditioned for their production of Sherlock and Cinders. They presented their monologues and scenes to Mrs Porter and Mrs McDowell in front of their class. The performances were of a very high standard and it will certainly make casting very difficult!



Teaching Assistants at St Aubyn's are very talented and Pre Prep's Mrs Wong is no exception! During an English lesson, she illustrated the story of 'The Smartest Giant in Town' to create a storyboard. The children were delighted with her drawings – especially the giraffe wearing a scarf!

This week, Seniors have taken part in the Nike X LYG Virtual Cross-Country Run. Representing Redbridge, all the children have run over a mile and submitted a personal time. These times will be collated and scored against other competing boroughs in the overall London Youth Games.



Year 1 have started getting into the festive spirit this week. They have been very busy making some wonderful Christmas decorations.



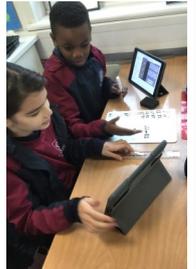
Many congratulations to the School House team for winning the Years 7 and 8 House Handball Competition.



This week in R.E, Year 2 have made a paper chain of people to reflect a chain of kindness and how to spread love as Jesus did. The children thought of scenarios where each person helps the other.



In maths this week, 5AM enjoyed the challenge of guessing numbers based on their divisors and remainders. They put their multiplication and division knowledge to the test and thoroughly enjoyed the session.



Year 4 have been enjoying the calm of mindfulness in their after-school activity this week. They have been experimenting with different breathing techniques, and enjoying various activities such as colouring and yoga. In this photo the group are practising rainbow breathing.

In science this week, Year 4 have been learning about the digestive system. They created a model to simulate how our food travels through our bodies. The children learned about what happens in the oesophagus, stomach and intestines.



It has been a busy week in the Music Department! In Year 5, pupils started to bring in their instruments to play in

class. We saw talented oboists, drummers, pianists and french horn players. They are continuing to play Holst's 'Mars' from his Planet Suite.

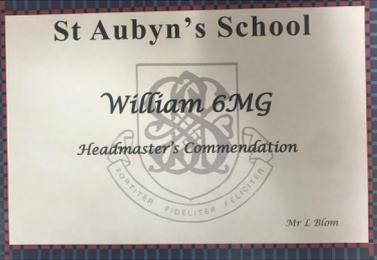


Year 6 are developing their compositional skills using Garageband in groups.



Next week will be exciting as they will be starting to play their compositions on their own instruments.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 continue to rehearse for their online performance which will be filmed next week in the PAC!



Congratulations to William in 6MG who was awarded a Headmaster's Commendation this week.