



Head's Message

Theme for next week: Try your Best

Dear Parents,

This week, it has been really enjoyable standing by the gate and greeting happy children and parents. The sense of excitement is palpable, as parents looked forward to freedom from the rigours of home schooling and the children are keen to see their friends and teachers in the flesh. By lunchtime on Monday, we were all back into the swing of things and it was almost like the previous nine weeks hadn't happened at all. It was just a strange dream and we have all woken up and found ourselves very glad to be awake.

As you know, the Year 7 and 8 pupils and teachers have received home test kits and will be testing themselves twice a week. It has been widely reported in the press that voluntary asymptomatic testing is available for **adults** in households with school-aged children (as well as in childcare and support bubbles). Unfortunately, schools are not able to provide tests to families of pupils from their supply of home testing kits. However, I am able to provide you with information about this scheme and how to access the tests yourselves.

The DfE update states: *There are various ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:*

- *through your employer, if they offer testing to employees*
- *by collecting a home test kit from a local test site - anyone aged 18 or over can collect two packs of seven tests*

When ordering a home test kit online, please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes - this frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

On Saturday, we are assessing external candidates for entry to St Aubyn's at 11+. If you know of any families or friends who were not successful in their examinations to the local schools at 11+, please refer them to Mrs Carbonaro, our admissions registrar, regarding an opportunity to be assessed for a place in Year 7.

The weekend weather seems rather inclement, but I hope you manage to get outside despite the poor forecast.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom



On Monday morning, we happily welcomed back all children to school. There was a wonderful sense of excitement in the air, from both parents and pupils! It has been fabulous to hear and see children in the classrooms, playgrounds and playing fields.



For this week's Eco-Committee challenge, we would like you to think about your perfect park.

Nursery pupils: draw or make a collage of the most exciting park you can imagine.

Pre Prep pupils: draw or create a 3D model of your perfect park. Label different habitats for wildlife and annotate how different sections will change over the seasons.

Middle and Senior School pupils: Create your ultimate urban park that includes areas that are appealing to you and your friends. Try to think about how this space could be made sustainable and the benefits it would bring to your local community.

Once you have completed your challenge, please upload a photo of it here, including your first name and class.

<https://padlet.com/mathsstaubyns/b7lmc7eu8yl137bk>



In Year 3, pupils are studying the book 'One Plastic Bag' by Miranda Paul about one woman's campaign to reduce plastic pollution in The Gambia. They are carrying out their own research about the effect of plastic pollution on

the British environment and are determined that something must be done to solve the problem. They are creating posters to raise awareness and are planning letters to supermarkets and MPs to ask for their help.



Thank you for all of your Book Week library competition entries. We had many excellent submissions which made judging very difficult indeed! Congratulations to our winners:

Rhea in Ducklings, Max and George RSL, Florrie 1CM, Aryan and Inaaya 1RK, Lewis 2TH, Jack and Rohan 3AG, Sara 4HS, Sarina and Maelee 4UM, Agatha 5AM and Teresa 6NS.



Pupils have been making the most of being back at school and being able to play sports again. In Year 6, girls have been developing their dribbling skills in football, and in

athletics, pupils have been improving their hurdling technique.



The music department has once again been filled with the sound of instrumental lessons. This week, we welcomed back our team

of visiting music specialists as they continue to prepare children for ABRSM examinations and online performances. We formally welcome Mrs Lim (piano) and Mr Webb (saxophone and clarinet) to the department. They join our expanding team of visiting music specialists.



This week in science, 5AM enjoyed conducting an experiment using Newton meters. They were testing the amount of friction created on different surfaces.

This week, Year 4 have been studying the theme of forgiveness using stories from the Bible.



They were assigned scenarios that may occur at school and, using role play, they were able to demonstrate why forgiveness is important.



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



With the return to school this week, we have continued our Road to Tokyo Challenge and have now covered over 5500 miles. We are now roughly 100 miles away from Kathmandu and will hopefully arrive in Tokyo before the end of term. Please continue to record and email your distances to Mr Bayntun.



Children in Year 2 have been exploring different forces in the secret playground and investigating how the amount of force exerted can change either the distance, shape or speed of an object.