



Head's Message

Theme for next week : Changing Me

Dear Parents,

Last week, Mr Shute conducted a travel survey, to determine how our pupils make their way to school each day. With life returning to normal, I am sure you have all noticed that the roads are back to their congested best. The survey identified that 13% of our children walk from home. This is excellent and is a figure we would like to see increase in the future. 15% of our pupils park and stride. This is a good compromise if you live too far away to walk to school. Only 5% of our school population cycle. This is a disappointing result, especially after seeing the numbers of cyclists on the road increase during the pandemic. I suspect that as the roads have become more busy, cyclists are now reluctant to use their bikes. A further 2.5% use scooters. The most alarming and disappointing statistic is that 60% of our pupil population travel to school by car from door to door, and only 3% car share. I would ask you to reflect on whether this is necessary or whether you are able to find an alternative way to travel to school. One of the few positives of the pandemic was that levels of pollution did decrease and it would be a good idea for all of us to try and limit the traffic flow in the best way we can. The most disappointing statistic was that 55 out of 86 (64%) Senior School pupils travel by car, door to door. Senior pupils are entitled to a Zip oyster card and could use public transport. This is also a good way to promote independence. Currently, only 1.5% of the pupil population catch the bus. If you are unsure of your child's road safety knowledge, please help them make practice runs so that they know their travel path and will be able to negotiate the potential hazards along the way. Mr Shute will provide our Senior parents with more advice on road safety.

This week in the monthly online safety newsletter, I would like to draw your attention to the article about Discord. This is a social networking application which enables gamers to chat with each other online. There are also in-app purchases through Discord's premium subscription service. Be aware that the minimum age to access Discord is 13. This is used by gamers of all ages and adult content can be easily accessed on the application, as well as inappropriate language. Please read the article in the newsletter which answers common questions and will help you to protect your child online. There are further articles providing advice and illustrating the safety and reporting features.

This half term has passed by very quickly. When we return in June, I am pleased to say we have a complete programme of events to look forward to. We remain hopeful that 21 June will offer more easing of the restrictions.

Have a super half term break.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom

Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.

Stephen Hawking

After weeks of preparing and months of waiting, the U13 Boys finally played a competitive cricket match against Normanhurst School. In an adapted format, the boys set an impressive score of 186 runs and, whilst Normanhurst looked to score whenever they could, the bowling from the



Years 7 and 8 team restricted their opponents to a score of 128 resulting in the St Aubyn's team recording a well deserved win. Well done, boys!

The U10 Girls played cricket against Woodford Green Prep this week.



It was a lovely afternoon of friendly fixtures and skill development.



Last Friday, Year 5 enjoyed their virtual author visit from the hilarious Frank Cottrell Boyce. Organised by the Library, our classrooms were full of laughter and we cannot wait to read Frank's books!



3JA are learning about the significance of water, especially the River Ganges, in Hinduism. They are creating colourful collages to celebrate and show their appreciation of rivers.



Some of our own St. Aubyn's 'angels' have been enjoying the wonderful new wall art which now adorns the Art Room corridor. The wall art work celebrates the work of famous British artists and designers.



We are all very excited that, after half term, music ensembles will return to St. Aubyn's! It has been a long time since we have been able to rehearse music together in groups and playing together is such a huge part of making music. Ensembles will include woodwind, upper strings, lower strings, brass and guitar. We cannot wait to hear what we can achieve ahead of the music concert later this term!



This week, Year 2 have been busy creating digital art on their class iPads using Purple Mash. Their work was inspired by Pablo Picasso's 'blue period'. Some fantastic, moody art was produced!



The Nursery and Reception children who attended After School Care last week enjoyed making their own sandwiches. As well as having fun, the children developed life skills which encourage independence and also practised their fine motor skills. Once their sandwiches were made, they enjoyed eating them!

In Middle School ASC, our Year 1 and 2 students had the opportunity to make bookmarks. They coloured and designed them themselves and then they were laminated to be ready to take home.



Board Games after-school activity is popular among the Year 2 children! Leo and Skye were certainly 'learning through play' when they built this structure by carefully balancing sticks on top of each other. Fortunately, they managed to retain their humour when the whole thing finally collapsed!



5AM enjoyed deciding whether tweets were examples of fact, opinion, speculation or rumour as part of the topic of Fake News in their taught library session.



In Dance after-school activity, Year 5 have been creating a dance duet in partners. This week, the theme was to create a pirate dance. With pirate hats and swords, it was a fierce fight!



This week, Year 6 have been learning how to long jump in preparation for Sports Day whilst Year 4 played their first ever competitive cricket fixture against WGFS. It was a great afternoon of sport for all the boys.



This week, Year 5 researched a famous person from our local area. Using the Chatterpix app, they presented their information in the role of that character to the rest of the class.



Year 4 have been learning about Britain since the 1950s. In their lesson this week, they were assigned a decade and tasked to produce a presentation on Pop Culture including the music, dancing and fashion of this era. The performances were amazing!

