



St Ursula's Convent School

The Weekly

Week Ending
25th September 2020
Issue Number 004



Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you and your families remain safe and well. I am pleased to tell you that your daughters are working hard and have adjusted well to the return to school.

The weather has turned colder this week and some girls are wearing their outdoor coats. Can I remind you that coats must be navy or black with no logos or fashion symbols. Hats are not part of the uniform and therefore are not permitted, scarves must be plain navy or black.

We have had some complaints from local residents about litter outside school. I will remind the girls about disposing of their rubbish in a responsible way, to respect our neighbours and the environment. I would be grateful if you could support us in this matter.

I have also been contacted by a local resident with concerns about parents leaving their car engines 'idling' whilst waiting to pick up their daughters. Can I ask that parents switch off their engines when waiting.

Year 11 parents have been sent a letter this week from Mrs Johnson regarding support for our year 11 girls. Please check your emails. If you have not received this letter, it is also posted on our website.

My best wishes
Mrs C Hamilton
Headteacher



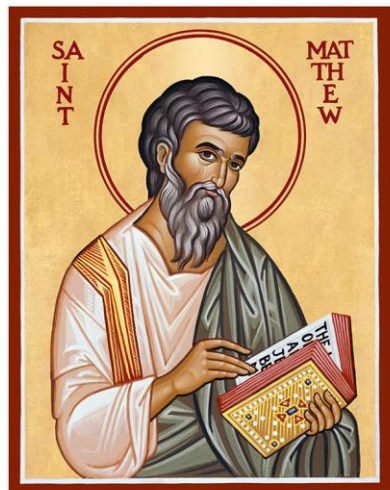
Polite reminder **energy & fizzy drinks** are **not permitted** in school. They are unhealthy and can be dangerous if consumed in large quantities.



Energy drinks will be confiscated and disposed of if brought into school.



Chaplaincy



Monday 21st September was the Feast of St. Matthew. When Jesus called him, Matthew (Levi) was working as a tax-collector, a despised profession for the Jews. This is, perhaps a reminder to us that we are not to judge others and that no-one is excluded from Jesus' invitation to follow Him.

Let us pray that in the midst of our busy lives we will keep our hearts and ears open to hear the Lord calling to us.

St. Matthew – pray for us!

The Year of the Word – The God Who Speaks has been extended to 2021. At Sunday Mass we will continue hear and reflect upon St. Matthew's Gospel until Advent, after which the Gospel readings will be taken from the Gospel of St. Mark.



During the lockdown our current Y8 and Y9 students made beautiful rosaries. Here are photos of just a few of them.

We are very grateful to Fr. Kevin for blessing them at the 9.30am parish Mass on Friday. In these days when we are not permitted to have Mass in school, it was lovely to bring a school presence to the parish Mass.



“Everyone should carry a small Bible or pocket edition of the Gospels and should find at least a few minutes every day to read the Word of God.” (Pope Francis)



GCSES 2021

We are aware that some pupils in Year 11 are anxious about their GCSE exams during this uncertain time.

Ms Johnson has written to all Year 11 parents this week, to reassure them, and our pupils, and explain the plans we have in place to support them this year.

The most up to date information from Ofqual, and the exam boards, can be found on the [exams section of the school website](#)

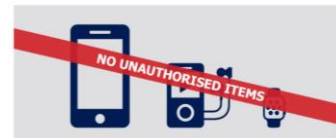
GCSE Examinations - Autumn Series 2020

GCSE Examinations for a small number of our Year 11 pupils, who were due to take GCSEs in June 2020, will be held in school from 2nd November 2020

The [GCSE timetable](#) is available on the [Exams section of the school website](#). This timetable sets out the day and time of each exam.

Pupils will also be issued with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) [Information for Candidates for Written Examinations](#) alongside a Candidate Handbook before October half term. This information should be studied carefully by all pupils, parents and carers to ensure that the rules and regulations of the GCSE examinations are fully understood.

Results from these November GCSEs will be released to pupils on Thursday 11th February 2021. We wish our Year 11s every success in these examinations.



The JCQ rules include:

- Pupils must be on time for all exams
- Pupils must not take notes, mobile phones, iPods, MP3/4 players, smartwatches or wrist watches with a data storage device into the exam room
- Pupils must not talk, try to communicate with, or disturb other pupils in the exam room
- Any pencil cases must be completely clear and see through
- If pupils wear a wrist watch they must remove it and place it on their desk when they arrive in the exam room
- Small, plastic water bottles must be completely clear with any labels removed and contain water only.



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Careers Corner

On Monday 28th and Tuesday 6th October, St Michael's Catholic College, Southwark will be visiting our year 11 students to discuss 6th form applications and what it is like to study there. Application season is right around the corner so it is important that our girls still get the best information possible.



GEOGRAPHY NEWS

The legendary Sir David Attenborough has joined Instagram in an attempt to reach a whole new generation and audience in a **"bid to save the planet"** -



Give him a follow.





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FOSTUR Annual General Meeting



The Annual General Meeting is taking place on 29th September at 7pm via Zoom. The link to meeting can be found below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88403974046?pwd=OTBWRHMwTWVZcFhPckt0c3FhekRrUT09>

Meeting ID: 884 0397 4046

Passcode: 354992

With COVID-19 protective measures in place, we need to review the ways in which we fundraise this year so we would like to welcome as many parents/carers to join us as possible to think creatively about ways in which FOSTUR can continue to support the school this academic year.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Tuesday 29th at 7pm.

Best wishes

Mrs K Adams
Deputy Headteacher



URGENT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS

To ensure the safety of our school community, please keep your daughter at home if she has any of the symptoms below.

Please keep your daughter home if she has a raised temperature **(37.8 or above)**. Or she is hot to touch on her chest or back.



Please keep your daughter home if she has a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

Please keep your daughter home if she has a loss or change to her sense of smell or taste – this means she has noticed she cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell and taste different to normal.



Students should not attend school with a raised Temperature – even if it has been remedied by taking medication.