



St Ursula's Convent School

The Weekly

Week Ending
31st March 2021
Issue Number 026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter of the spring term and I wanted to wish you and your families a holy and happy Easter break. The students have worked hard this term both on-line at home and in school since we have fully re-opened.



Can I ask that you remind your child to come straight home after school. There are police reports of large numbers of school aged boys and girls congregating in Woolwich town centre and some fights have broken out. We do not want any of our students getting involved and have been asked by the police to alert you of this.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you for Health and Safety reasons, we do not allow lollipops in school as they could be a choking hazard. Any student who brings a lollipop to school will have it confiscated.

We return to school after the Easter break and as always at the beginning of a term we have a full uniform and equipment check. Please do support your child by ensuring they have the correct uniform and equipment for school.

Take care and stay safe.

My best wishes as always,

Catrina Hamilton
Headteacher

Attendance Reminder

Please ensure that holidays are not booked during term time. This includes during lockdowns when children are learning from home.

Miss Brown
Attendance Officer

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If at any point in the future your child tests positive for Covid, it is essential that you inform the school as soon as possible, even if it is after school hours or at the weekend. In the event that your child does test positive, please email: **covid@stursulas.com**

This email will be checked regularly and a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact you as soon as the email is picked up. We will have to gather information from your child about who they have been in contact with. This information is required by Public Health England, they will then advise us on the next steps.



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DISCERNING & JOYFUL – even in difficult times

Last week we have walked closely with Jesus, praying the **Stations of the Cross** in class groups. The **Via Dolorosa** is not an easy walk but it is important that we take these opportunities to reflect upon the enormity of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

Living in this time of pandemic, we are only too painfully aware of the crosses we are asked to bear. We also know that Christ has defeated death and that He has risen to give us life. He is with us in our suffering.

We give thanks that, even in these days of Lent, we are Easter people.



He is Risen

DEATH COULD NOT HOLD HIM.

Rejoice in the resurrection of

Jesus Christ.



WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND JOY FILLED EASTER!



A reminder that during Lent we are walking for water.

Our target is **£1,450** (£2 each)

So far we have raised **£468.70**.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY



WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING TEAM



LOCKDOWN BAKE OFF 2021

St Ursula's bake off has now reached its penultimate round - round four and I must say the judging certainly hasn't been made easy! We really do have a wonderful bunch of bakers amongst our students. Once again a huge well done to all who entered.

It has been a real pleasure to witness and judge the talents of our bakers and I must say it would have been even more pleasurable had we of been able to carry out a taste test too!

Many congratulations goes to our joint first place winners, Amelia Demby, 8U and Natalie Ferreira, 9U for their exceptional entry.



As with our previous rounds only one finalist can go through to the final, however due to yet another round of amazing entrants we will be awarding a second place to Niamh O'Callaghan, 7A

and a third place to Iris Filbee, 9C.



We look forward to our 'show stopper' round, whereby students bake a dish of their personal choice. We anticipate yet another difficult round of judging.

Happy baking! Wishing you all the best of luck
St Ursula's Wellbeing & Safeguarding team



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Dear parent/carers

The past year certainly has proved a challenging time, we'd like to take this time to congratulate our students and their families in the hurdles you've overcome, the commitment to remote learning and the resilience you have all shown.

However such testing times hasn't come without its struggles, as mentioned in an earlier email should you have concerns please don't hesitate to share these with us. Research shows a reported increase in young people experiencing higher levels of stress, loneliness, anxiety and other issues as a result on the pandemic. With us all having to adjust to changes in education, routine, structure and home life.

The Good Thinking service, in partnership with The Mayor of London's Office and with support from Partnership for Young London, has launched a new expanded digital platform to provide young people aged 13-18 with access to free resources and apps to improve their mental wellbeing.

Expert advice and links to NHS-approved wellbeing apps, as well as podcasts, blogs and details of NHS 24/7 helplines and other support organisations can help them get through this difficult time. Which can be accessed through the link below: This link can also be found on the 'Keep me in mind' google classroom page.

<https://www.good-thinking.uk/youngpeople/>

The **Young Greenwich Parent Support and advice service** is also offering free parent group classes, drop in sessions, one to one support and counselling services to parents of secondary school students in the Borough of Greenwich. For more information about their services and contact details, click link below:

[Free Parenting Support Programme for Parent of Teenagers in Greenwich \(young-greenwich.org.uk\)](https://www.greenwich.org.uk/young-parenting-support)

Wishing you all a restful and relaxing Easter break

Regards

St Ursula's Pastoral team



Easter Holiday Meals

Free holiday meals are available for school aged children this Easter break at various locations across the Borough of Greenwich.

Tasty grab-and-go lunches can be picked up from libraries, centres and adventure parks with no sign up required.

Holiday meals will be provided on weekdays from Tuesday, April 6 until Friday, April 16.

For more information on serving times and locations visit www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidaymeals





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The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards

Once again we will be shadowing the CILIP Carnegie medal! Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane have put the first chapter of each of the eight nominated books and the link to the survey on the Library Google Drive for pupils to read and vote on their favourite book! Pupils in Ms Cahalane's classes will be discussing in lesson, and Miss Deegan will buy copies of the most popular books for the library and discussion group once the votes are in!

All the resources can be found on the Oliver Library homepage, just follow the link and make sure that pupils are logged into their school google account!

<https://stursulas.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/news>





Read eBooks over Easter!

While pupils are on holiday they can still access hundreds of eBooks online with our ePlatform! They can search them easily through our Oliver Library System and then be redirected to ePlatform to login and read!

Oliver Library System

<https://stursulas.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/news>



ePlatform Ebooks

<https://stursulascscs.eplatform.co/>



An instruction manual on how pupils can access the eBooks through Oliver, or just login to the ePlatform directly is in their Library Google Classroom. Pupils can obtain lost login details by messaging Miss Deegan in Google Classroom. There are over 1,000 eBooks to choose from!

All the links needed are here!:

<https://padlet.com/stulibrary/klnusczmsjdv3qta>

DOWNLOAD THE EPLATFORM APP FOR MOBILE READING!

In addition to the ePlatform website, pupils can download the ePlatform eBook reader as an app to their device and read on a tablet, smartphone or mobile computer! There are even options to download and read offline!

<https://stursulascscs.eplatform.co/help/apps/eplatform-app>



Improving Literacy at Home

Is your child a reluctant reader? Do they avoid sitting down with a book? Do you struggle to get them off streaming services? Make this work for you!

Did you know that a recent scientific study has shown that turning the subtitles on when children watch videos doubles their chance of being a good reader? Many children have taken a step backward in their literacy during lockdown and using subtitles could improve their reading without them even realising! Luckily, TV services and streaming platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime and Disney+ all come with subtitle options!

Learn more below...

The science of turning on the subtitles:

<https://youtu.be/DK51uVm91vk>

Learn more with Stephen Fry!

<https://youtu.be/l-zISnJ-oao>

And the official website:

www.turnonthesubtitles.org

